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W. A. Passavant.

The
CHURCH'S TREASURES

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The CHURCH'S TREASURES

A HISTORY OF THE ORPHANS' HOME AND ASYLUM FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

By

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1923

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Orphans' Home and Asylum for the Aged and
Infirm of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church, Philadelphia, Pa.

DEDICATED

TO THE

NOBLE MEN AND WOMEN OF FAITH WHO HAVE ESPOUSED
THE CAUSE OF THE NEEDY ORPHAN AND
THE DEPENDENT AGED

WHAT SAITH THE SCRIPTURE?

"*He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*" —Hebrews 13 : 5.

"*Thou art the helper of the fatherless.*"—Psalms 10 : 14.

"*I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.*" —Psalms 37 : 25.

"*When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.*"—Psalms 27 : 10.

"*He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory.*"—I Samuel 2 : 8.

"*Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.*"—James 1 : 27.

"*And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.*"—Matthew 18 : 5.

"*Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye*

gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

"*Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*"—Matthew 25 : 34–40.

"*Trust ye in the Lord forever.*"—Isaiah 26 : 4.

FOREWORD

IN MAKING preparation for a suitable celebration of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the founding of the Orphans' Home at Germantown, the Board of Trustees determined to publish an anniversary volume, and by formal resolution requested the writer to prepare this history of the institution. The request was formally presented to him in New York City by Mr. Peter Woll, Jr., in November, 1918, during the great convention for the organization of the United Lutheran Church in America. He would rather have had another to be charged with such a responsibility, because of the pressure of many other duties, and because he had not been in close touch with the affairs of the Home for a number of years. He felt, however, that he could not decline, because as a child of the Church he had himself received the sheltering protection of the Home from the year 1875 to the year 1884, when he entered the University of Pennsylvania.

Soon another difficulty arose. As pastor of St. Stephen's Church of West Philadelphia, he was compelled to consider a call of the Pacific Theological Seminary at Seattle, Washington, to the Chair of the Old Testament. This naturally gave him great concern, with the result that the history could receive but little attention. And then, accepting the call and entering upon the duties of

his new office, it seemed impossible to think of writing a history. However, by using every spare moment, and with the gracious favor of the Almighty, something has been accomplished, although the result has not equalled the expectations which he had when he assumed the responsibility of the task. He therefore asks that the Board of Trustees will make all due allowance for the delay of the volume, and that the readers will keep in mind the circumstances under which the work was prepared.

In securing the historical details, we received considerable aid from some of those most deeply interested in the Home and familiar with its records—Mrs. Eisenhardt, the Superintendent; Mrs. Mary Steiner and Mrs. Emma S. Pleibel, two of the oldest living workers for the Home in the earlier days; Mrs. W. H. Zinser, the Secretary of the Board of Lady Visitors; Mr. Wm. P. M. Braun, the Treasurer; and especially the Rev. A. C. Schenck, the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, who rejoiced that the oldest Minutes (lost for some time) had been restored and placed in his possession. Without this generous aid, the writing of this volume would have been almost impossible. With pleasure we acknowledge our indebtedness.

It must be constantly borne in mind that this is the Sixtieth Anniversary volume, and that therefore the history is understood to conclude with the great celebration of May 4, 1919. Our aim has been to preserve the important records of sixty years. It is not a bare history,

but an exhibition of the merciful providence of God in caring for the poor through the agency of His Church. It is evidence of the faith of the Church working by love —an inner mission activity, through an institution of the Church. We may forget the facts, with dates and details of occurrence, but we can never forget the work which is described, the work of love that has inspired the hearts of so many thousands of God's children in the past to take up the care of the helpless in the name of Him who has said, "Whoso shall receive one such little child in my name, receiveth me."

We thus commend to you the reading of this book, with the hope and prayer that it may be used of the Lord to foster the spirit of loving devotion among His children in the care of the poor. If you have passed over the page of the Scripture passages—as readers are so apt to do—we beg you to turn back and read that which is the best part of this book—the part that is not forgotten with the passing years, but which shares the eternity of God Himself.

Seattle, Washington, 1920.

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INTRODUCTORY

IN THE latter half of the nineteenth century a young man came to America from Germany and settled in Philadelphia. He was by trade a piano-maker. Here he met a young woman, who had but recently come from the same country. They were married and took up their abode in a little home. Industrious, frugal and pious, they reared a family of children. They were faithful members of the German Lutheran Church. When the oldest child was twelve years of age, a great sorrow entered the home. The father was taken seriously ill, and soon was called to rest. What could the stricken mother do with her five little children? She alone could not support them. The father's tools must be sold. With a baby in her arms, and with an oil lamp standing on the lid of the open tool chest, she displays the tools to a prospective buyer; when the child, making a sudden move, the lamp is overturned and a conflagration ensues. Frantically trying to extinguish the flames with her clothing and with whatever she could lay hold upon, she caught fire herself; and a little later she was carried out of the house to a hospital, where, in a few days, she followed her husband to her rest. Her words, spoken as he lay dying—"I will soon follow"—came true and all too soon. Now, what of these orphan children? One was cared for by a friend, and the four—and especially

the baby, only eighteen months old—what of them? "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." God Himself is the Father of the Fatherless. And He has fulfilled His word times without number. He always fulfills His promises. When our Lord appeared in the flesh among men, He found no established institution for the care of orphan children. But He planted His Church; and He gave His disciples solemn charge to do His work: and in due time every phase of charitable work has been instituted. And through this solemn charge and this spirit of Christian love and loyalty and devotion to her Lord, the Church has founded Orphans' Homes. So it happened that the Church opened her loving arms and provided a home for the homeless—the fatherless and motherless children. The souls of these orphan children are precious in His sight, and the Church is ready in His name to open her heart and her hands to care for His children.

The foregoing story might be repeated in numberless instances, with many variations. It presents to the members of the Church of Christ one of its many problems in which she must be true to Her Lord and imitate His spirit and care for those whom He claims as His charge—"the poor and him that hath no helper."

Such blessed work the Orphans' Home of Germantown has done from the beginning of its history; and, please God, it will continue to do so. "For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command them, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto

thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land." —Deut. 15 : 11.

At the consecration of a charitable institution a speaker once remarked, "It is not too much to spend so many thousands for the saving of a single child." Afterwards he was taken to task by one of his hearers, "Is it not too strong, Doctor, to speak of spending seventy thousand dollars for the reformation of one child?" Without a moment's hesitation came the reply, "Not if it were my child." These orphans are *our* children; these helpless aged are *our* care. God has ever had special care for "the poor and him that hath no helper"; and that care He graciously entrusts to His Church. His children know, and they gladly respond to His call and do as He leads them. The result has been the mighty achievements of human philanthropy and Christian charity, born of the love revealed of God in Christ. So, the Gospel is preached to the poor in home and foreign lands. And the many inner mission activities of the Church have sprung up in all parts of the world, to bless spiritually and temporally those who are in any condition of need—"in body, mind or estate."

In 1911 Dr. Ohl* reported that there were thirty-two Lutheran Old People's Homes in the United States, of which two were in Philadelphia, the one in Germantown —the oldest of them all, 1859—and the other the Mary J. Drexel Home, of 1889. At the same time there were

* "The Inner Mission," by Rev. Dr. J. F. Ohl, Superintendent of the Philadelphia City Mission, 1911.

fifty-six Lutheran Orphans' Homes, three of which were on the territory of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania—the Germantown Home, the Topton Home, of 1896, and the Allentown Good Shepherd Home for Infants, of 1908. The oldest of these Homes is the Emmaus Home at Middleton, Pa., of 1806; the second, the Home and Farm School at Zelienople, Pa., of 1852; and the third oldest is the Germantown Orphans' Home, of 1859. The Evangelical Lutheran Church has always had a large place in its affections for the needy ones of the earth. "The modern orphan asylum* system will ever remain associated with the name of August Hermann Francke, who, in 1698, opened the first Lutheran Home for orphans." "The 'Francke Institutions' are still attended by fully 3000 pupils and constitute one of the largest if not the largest establishment in the world in which the aim is to fit children on a Christian educational basis for any position in life." The great orphanage of George Müller at Bristol, England, was founded in 1836. So great has been the growth of this charitable work that in 1904 there were in the United States 1075 such institutions, of which 478 were under Church control.

In 1877, in writing a brief historical sketch of the Germantown Home, the Secretary spoke of it as "the favorite institution of the Church." And with the springing up of many institutions since that time it does not seem to have lost its just claim to that title. The Church was most deeply concerned with the welfare of

* Dr. Ohl's "The Inner Mission," page 146.

the children entrusted to its care. They were instructed in both the English and German languages, as so many came from German-speaking families, and so much of the support came from German congregations. Their religious training was thorough, with instruction in the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism. They attended school and religious services regularly. And when they became of suitable age, the girls were engaged in domestic employments, or they were adopted by Christian families. The boys were indentured out to various trades, such as tanner, printer, machinist, confectioner, sugar-refiner and florist.

The Home has never suffered for want of friends. It is a cause which naturally appeals to all, young and old. It calls forth the consecration of service, time, strength and money, as perhaps no other cause does. There's a heart in the work: and every one with a heart wants to have some share in it. That was a just appreciation written in 1896 by the Secretary, Rev. C. J. Hirzel:

> " 'Tis not alone the work they do,
> Nor yet the way they do it:
> But with the work and in the way
> Their heart-love goes all through it."

At the funeral services of Mrs. Emma C. Seeger, the Rev. H. D. E. Siebott remarked: "If ever the institution we love had a devoted friend, it was our dear departed sister." Among many such devoted friends we must especially mention one who is still with us, and who has been identified with the work of the Home from

its earliest days—Mrs. Emma S. Pleibel—who was a member of the Board of Lady Visitors since 1873, and its President for twenty-seven years. She now holds the office of Honorary President. Her heart was in the Home. And it is true that there are many earnest men and women, some still on earth and many in heaven, whose hearts were in the Home, and to whom it was a real joy to render some service, either in the internal work of the Home, in its management, or in the provision for its constant needs. Their memory is blessed. They have not merely the inner satisfaction of knowing that they were doing God's service, which is precious unto Him, but they also have the prayers and the blessings of those whom they have befriended. And if these cannot show outwardly their heart's appreciation, some day it will be shown to the crowning delight of these servants of Jesus, whose commendation is: "Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness (that is, by its use); that, when ye fail (and must leave your possessions), they may receive you into everlasting habitations."—Luke 16 : 9.

Together with the intellectual and religious training, there has ever been a training in Americanism. Whilst the German language has been used and taught along with the English, we very much doubt whether ever a boy or girl has left the institution without being a true American. From the records it appears that about thirty of the former boys of the Home had entered the service of their country in the late war. Some have

returned with marks of the conflict. Thank God, the war is ended, and all the boys can enter manfully into the battle of life, for which good preparation was made in the Home of their youth. That preparation had its many pleasures. It was so in the past, and it must be so to-day, perhaps greater than ever. Certain times of pleasure stood out pre-eminently: Christmas, with the annual visit to the woods in quest of laurel, and then the pleasant evenings making up the festoons, along with the preparation of the candies and presents, and the culminating Christmas celebration; the annual Examination Day—with the exhibit of learning before the few astonished visitors; the Anniversary; Donation Day, with all that went before and followed after; Fourth of July, with its firecrackers and ice cream; the annual visit to the Zoological Garden, through the courtesy in earlier days of the Pennsylvania Railroad and the management of the Garden; and the periodical visits to some local congregation, where the people always seemed so eager to give pleasure to the children.

There are some things that never get into history. Years ago one of the former boys visited the Home, after having had considerable experience in the Far West. He delighted the boys with his account of hair-breadth escapes from the Indians. It was but natural that they should catch the explorative spirit. But what should they explore? The areaway around the house; the cellar, with the intricacies of the interior of the large furnace underneath the kitchen range; the labyrinthian

intricacies of darkness around the attic under the roof, even up to the apertures in the cupola. They had the spirit; and some day as they entered into the responsibilities of life they would find ample opportunities for the exercise of all their ingenuity and inventiveness, as well as sterling qualities of character, to prove to the world that their training was not in vain, that the money expended was indeed none too much, and that they were men and women who could be trusted, depended upon—who would have a place in the work of the Church of Christ and who perhaps might one day stand in the very presence of Him to whose love they owe all.

THE CHURCH'S TREASURES

CHAPTER I

THE BEGINNINGS

"Mighty things from small beginnings grow."—DRYDEN

THE originator of the Orphans' Home at Germantown was the Rev. W. A. Passavant, D.D., of Pittsburgh. This sainted leader of the Church was a man of deep sympathy, whose heart went out in love toward all those who were in distress. The results of his beautiful life are preserved for the Church in "The Life and Letters of W. A. Passavant, D.D.," by Dr. Gerberding.

DR. PASSAVANT

The year 1848 marked a turning-point in the career of Dr. Passavant. He took a trip to Europe for his health and visited London. There he was deeply impressed with the appearance of a stately building, in front of which there was a shield with this inscription, "Jewish Orphan Asylum"—"Within the Orphan shall find Compassion." The emotions excited were not allowed to pass without action. He visited the Kaiserswerth institution of Theodore Fliedner. He returned to America. Then began the development of the Passavant charitable institutions in and around Pittsburgh. But it did not stop there. It was likewise the beginning

of the Germantown Home. While not organically connected with the Passavant Home and Farm School of Zelienople, it was certainly an offshoot. When Dr. Passavant opened his Pittsburgh Home in 1852, with Sister Louise Marthens in charge, one of the first consignments of children was from Philadelphia. Ah, there was need also in Philadelphia! He himself said that, when, eight years before the Home was started in Germantown, he placed the first dollar in the hands of Mrs. C. W. Schaeffer, the wife of the distinguished pastor of St. Michael's Church of Germantown, for the purpose of opening an orphans' home in that place. Mrs. Mary Steiner, an old and intimate friend of Mrs. Schaeffer, gives the following account: Dr. Passavant was on his way to attend the convention of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania and stopped at Womelsdorf, to inspect an orphanage of the Reformed Church. Reaching Philadelphia, he visited the Schaeffer home. Here he said to Mrs. Schaeffer, "Why cannot the Lutherans have an orphanage as well as the Reformed?" Later he said, "Now, everything must have a beginning: I will give you the first dollar." Mrs. Schaeffer put that dollar away in a knitted purse and was in great perplexity how to begin. But there in that purse was the beginning. It is no wonder that Mrs. Pleibel treasured

"I will Give You the First Dollar"

that purse, which was given her by Mrs. Schaeffer, as a sacred relic, for with it was associated the heart of Dr. Passavant. It was the counterpart of the dollar* given in Pittsburgh by a friend for the beginning of the work there. But how begin? Mrs. Schaeffer called together the women of the Lutheran churches of Philadelphia for

First Rented House

consultation. They agreed to begin and were ready to co-operate.

In the name of the Lord, on March 12, 1859, they rented a little two-story house at 6719 Germantown Avenue (just a little below the car barn) from Mr.

*Dr. Gerberding's "Life and Letters of Dr. Passavant," p. 222.

George Ashmead, who later became the first treasurer of the Home. Here now was the house; but where were the orphans?—and who would take charge of them? Dr. Passavant himself relates that, early in March, 1859, Sister Louise Marthens with four orphan girls of the home in Pittsburgh went to Germantown to open the home in the little rented house which was to become "the cradle of the Eastern Home." Dr. Passavant also encouraged them to connect an Old People's Home with the orphanage. Within eight weeks seven orphans were received and a matron had been secured; and Sister Louise was permitted to return to Pittsburgh. Thus, under the guidance of Dr. Passavant, Mrs. Schaeffer, assisted by the women of the Philadelphia churches, and especially of St. Michael's Church of Germantown, became the founder of the Germantown Orphans' Home. Of course, there were difficulties and disappointments, and for a while there was a strong temptation to abandon the work, concerning which Dr. Gerberding writes: "When Dr. Passavant was informed of this, his patience almost failed him. He protested vigorously, went on at once to Germantown, lent a helping hand, and again revived hope and courage." The relationship between the Pittsburgh and Germantown homes Dr. Passavant describes thus: "The Orphan House in Germantown, though not under the same management as the parent institution, is one with it in principles, aims, and plans. No emulation exists between them,

MRS. SCHAEFFER

but to excel in being helpful to each other and to the fatherless. The boys of the new home, for the present, are sent to the Farm School, on arriving at the required age, just as they are transferred to it from the home in Pittsburgh. *Its future history is with God, who hath called it into life and whose shall be all the glory of its success.*"

Mrs. Schaeffer became the superior or directress of the young institution. Hers was the guiding hand; and the women of the Philadelphia churches co-operated with her in the management of the affairs of the Home. There was then no "General Council." As Mrs. Steiner puts it, the only difference among the churches was "the wearing of the gown." The women met once a week to sew for the Home, to consult together, and to attend to its needs. A close friendship sprang up between them and their leader, who was known among them for her kindly disposition and for her tender regard for the orphan children.

The Home was opened on March 12, 1859, and the first orphan was admitted March 18, 1859. He was George Silvers, born May 6, 1853, a full orphan, who is still living at the writing of this history, and whose sister, Miss Mary Ann Silvers, is an inmate of the asylum. By the middle of June thirteen had been admitted. The rented house had become too small. It was determined to secure larger and more permanent quarters. In October, 1859, the present site was purchased at 6950

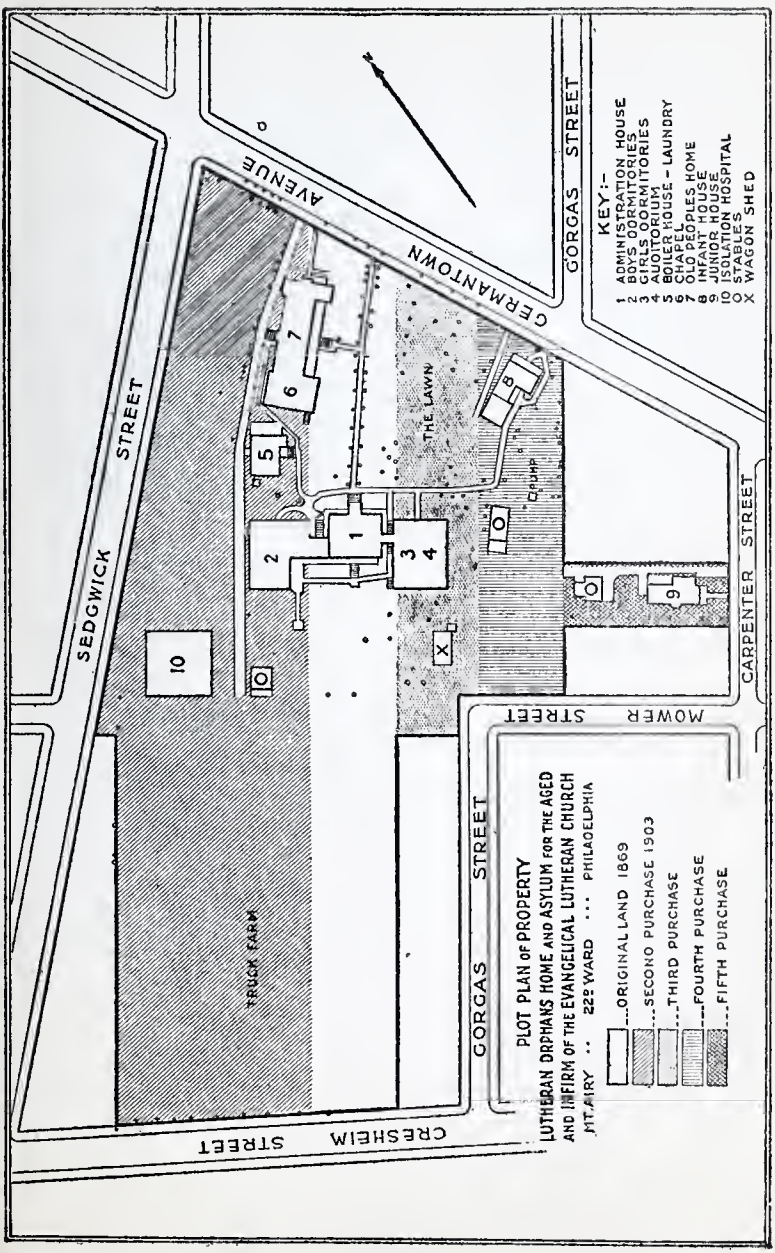
FIRST ORPHAN

Germantown Avenue for the sum of $7000, of which sum the managers were able to pay $4300 at the time of the purchase, through the generosity of the members of congregations in Philadelphia and elsewhere. In the year 1865 there was still a debt of $2000, by which time there were 125 children in the Home—50 girls and 75 boys.

PRESENT SITE

The property consisted of five acres of land, with a frontage on Germantown Avenue of 138 feet, and extending back 1075 feet to Cresheim Road, containing a large house on the upper corner of the main street, with barn and out-buildings, all of which buildings disappeared many years ago. Twenty children were removed to this new home. It was soon too small and had to be enlarged. The subsequent development of the Home proves the wisdom of the choice of that site. Its location is healthful. There was room for expansion. It was within the city limits, with the benefits naturally accruing. And besides, it was within easy distance of the heart of a great city, with many Lutheran congregations and with every facility of railroad and "horse-car." (How strange the word now sounds!)

There was a broad spirit controlling the philanthropy of that day. From the beginning it was intended as a Home "for destitute orphan children without distinction of creed or country, where they may be educated in any useful branch of business to which they may be inclined, and thus prepared for the active duties of life." All honor to the men and women who persevered in



PRESENT SITE AND PLAN OF PROPERTY

faith and triumphed over many difficulties! Without their devotion, under God's kind providence, the work would not have prospered. These names are associated with the early years of struggle: Mrs. Ashmead, Mrs. Birnbaum, Mrs. Bockman, Mrs. Catherine Bremer, Mrs. Emily G. Heins, Mrs. Emma S. Pleibel, Mrs. Rittenhouse, Mrs. Mary Steiner, and later, Miss Susan Monroe. Prominent among the men who stood by the work were Mr. Lewis L. Houpt and Mr. Paul P. Keller, relatives of Mrs. Schaeffer, and Mr. George Ashmead, her brother.

THE PIONEERS

CHAPTER II

CONTROL OF LADY MANAGERS

THE beginning of the Orphans' Home at Germantown was in the hands of the women of the Church. They planned it. They set the wheels in motion. They controlled it; and they have never withdrawn their interest in the progress of years—and *they never will.* Mrs. Catherine Bremer, of Zion's congregation, was one of the first ladies to be interested. When she died, it was reported of her in 1887: "It has been well said that in the history of the Orphans' Home and Asylum, and amongst its contributors, no name stands out more prominently than that of the Bremer family." Mr. John L. Bremer had contributed $5000 toward the debt of the Home, and again $5000 toward the new asylum.

With Mrs. Bremer was associated, since 1867, Mrs. Mary M. Steiner, who having reached the age of ninety-one years died in 1919. She was a great friend of the Home, and actively interested for twenty-eight years. While Mrs. Bremer collected from within the Church, Mrs. Steiner reached those outside. Mr. George W. Childs, of Philadelphia, was one of her contributors, and Mrs. Wallace, of the Episcopal Church of New York City. She claimed to have received the first bequest from Mr. John Fox. Besides, through the influence of her distinguished nephew, the Rev. Dr. Theodore E.

Schmauk, she was able to get great results from the pastors and congregations she visited in the interest of the Home. Her pastor, Rev. William Julius Mann, D.D., LL.D., was most deeply interested in the Home and the cause of the orphan, and encouraged the women of the Church to do all they could for the Home. He had placed 25 copies of his "Heilsbotschaft" in Mrs. Steiner's hands, and 25 in the hands of Mrs. Pleibel—for the benefit of the Home. And the treasurer of the Home in 1885 reported: "From the sale of Rev. Dr. Mann's book, 'Message of Salvation' (Heilsbotschaft) —$601.65." Through Mrs. Bremer Mrs. Steiner became one of the most intimate friends and associates of Mrs. Schaeffer, whom she highly esteemed, and with whom she had but one serious difference, and that was at the time when the Home was to be transferred to the care of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, when she voted for the transfer. In describing the incident she said: "I was sorry, as she looked at me so sorrowfully. There was no other help." But their friendship continued unbroken, and her interest in the Home has never waned, although for years, because of physical infirmity, she had been unable to take an active part in the work. She was truly consecrated to the work, and felt the effect of the patriarchal blessing of Dr. Passavant, who, when Mrs. Schaeffer introduced Mrs. Steiner to him, laid his two hands upon her hand and "blessed her and the work of the orphans."

Mrs. Pleibel has had an unusual record in connection

with the work of the Home from the earliest days and reaching down to the day she died in 1919. When she resigned, because of the infirmities of age, and became Honorary President of the Ladies, she was succeeded in office by Mr. Henry Lehman's daughter, Mrs. J. K. Weaver, who held the office four years, until the time of her death in March, 1919. Mrs. Pleibel carried the interests of the Home ever in her heart, and in its time of dire need went from house to house collecting any sums, even five and ten cents, for the immediate relief of the Home. While prayers were ascending to the Father of mercies to provide for the orphan, this faithful soul was going from house to house that God's children might furnish the means. It is a background worthy of an artist! She provided Bibles for the boys and girls as they were confirmed; and after the first confirmation service was conducted by Dr. Mann in the chapel of the Asylum, she persuaded the Board of Lady Visitors to assume this obligation; and it has been carried out ever since. Some of the children still refer to their Bible with a great deal of pride. It was but right and proper that on July 13, 1898, they should hold a joint celebration at the Home, commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of Mr. Henry Lehman as a member of the Board of Trustees, and of Mrs. Pleibel as a Lady Visitor.

The Secretary of the Board of Lady Visitors, Mrs. W. H. Zinser, has records of the board as far back as 1893. Their actual records, however, go back to the beginning.

Two of Mrs. Zinser's mother's cousins were members of the first board, with whom she used to visit the Home fifty years ago to help in the sewing. In those days, in the year 1865, Miss Sue Lehman, a relative of Mr. Henry Lehman, and a member of St. Michael's Church of Germantown, was the Secretary of the Board.

These are but types of the women to whose hands the destinies of the Home were safely intrusted—a noble, earnest, consecrated, faithful band. Their successors have rapidly multiplied.

The ladies of the various Lutheran congregations in Philadelphia held regular meetings with Mrs. Schaeffer, their leader and the directress of the work. Their next step was to effect a more permanent organization. To this end a constitution and by-laws were drawn up, officers were elected, and on May 1, 1860, application was made to the State for incorporation.

ORGANIZATION AND INCORPORATION

Two ladies were to be chosen by each of the co-operating congregations as the representatives thereof, who were to constitute the Board of Lady Managers. In the year 1865, the following nine congregations furnished the eighteen members of the Board: Zion's and St. Michael's, St. James', St. John's, St. Mark's, St. Matthew's, St. Luke's, St. Michael's of Germantown, Trinity of Germantown, and St. Thomas' of Germantown. Incorporation was effected on June 4, 1860, with the following trustees: Lewis Bremer, Henry Goodman, George Ashmead, William L. Schaeffer, Lewis L. Houpt,

John L. Frederick, and G. A. Reichert. The officers of the trustees were: President, Mr. Lewis Bremer; Secretary, Mr. Lewis L. Houpt; Treasurer, Mr. George Ashmead. The directress was Mrs. C. W. Schaeffer. In December, 1860, the Rev. J. Schladermundt became the first House-Father. According to the constitution under which the incorporation was effected the Board of Lady Managers was the controlling body, consisting of two representatives elected by each of the Lutheran congregations of Philadelphia which were co-operating. They directed entirely the domestic economy and discipline of the institution, and "without any interference on the part of the trustees." The managers annually elected a directress, a secretary, and a treasurer. They met quarterly and appointed the superintendent, matron, teachers, nurses, and other officers, and fixed their compensation. They appointed annually a Household, a School, and an Indenturing Committee. They elected the trustees (not to exceed nine) for legal purposes and for financial supervision, and to carry out the resolutions of the managers. These trustees and their successors constituted the corporation in law. The trustees controlled the financial and property interests; held a joint quarterly meeting with the managers; elected their own officers and two standing committees—a Building and a Finance Committee. The president and secretary of the trustees with the directress, constituted a Committee on Indentures, to see to the proper care of the children, and especially the indenture to the Home, and on leaving

the Home, to others. They attended to the indenturing of the orphans as "apprentice in any art, mystery, occupation, or labor." The constitution provided that the children were to be taught to study and to work, the boys on the farm and the girls in sewing. Immoral and unsuitable literature was prohibited, and also spirituous or malt liquors and tobacco. The first annual meeting of the Board of Managers was held in the year 1861. The charter was amended by Act of the Assembly February 27, 1863. It especially stipulated that there was to be no interference from the Board of Trustees in the internal management of the affairs of the Home. *The Lady Managers were in control!* It extended the limit of the clear yearly income from $2000 to $10,000, and made special provision for the indenturing of the children. The act to exempt the property of the Home from taxation, excepting the State tax, was passed April 4, 1863. The Home was opened. The members of the congregations were interested. Organization was effected, and the institution was properly incorporated. But one part was still lacking.

THE ASYLUM

From the very beginning the institution was also intended to be an asylum for the aged and infirm; and the Asylum was to be open to "adult members of the Lutheran Church in want through old age, accident or disease." The first application came from Germantown on May 10, 1860. The first inmate of the Asylum was admitted in the person of Mrs. Margaret Kauffelt, known as Sister

Margaret, who was an invalid, suffering from rheumatism from 1830 to 1874. She was born June 3, 1809, and died at the Asylum January 12, 1874. She was received from St. Michael's congregation, and had been an inmate of the Germantown almshouse for twenty-two years. But why make special note of this woman? Her physical infirmity would only suggest care and burden. But it was soon discovered that she was to be a valuable acquisition to the institution, proven especially later, when there were more old people admitted. She was of a mild and gentle disposition, and had a sweet and pious spirit; and when the aged were in trouble, they were brought to her room, the word of peace was spoken, and the trouble vanished. Mrs. Steiner called her "a saint on earth." And there are some who will read this story who will remember visiting Sister Margaret in her room, hearing her read reverently and humbly from God's Book and departing with the benediction of peace. When she died, there was great grief in the Home and a real sense of loss.

SISTER MARGARET

The second inmate of the Asylum was received October 13, 1865, in the person of Mrs. Carolina Louisa Frankenburg. She came to America in 1836, then returned to her native land, and again came to America in 1858. She was disabled in Columbus, Ohio, in 1860, while pursuing her life-work as a Kindergartner, and was received into the Asylum in 1865, where she died Novem-

MRS. FRANKENBURG

ber 4, 1882. She was a sweet Christian character that attracted many friends. Mrs. Frankenburg was an honored pupil of Froebel, and had come to this country to introduce the kindergarten system. She had been a kindergarten teacher for seven years in Bautzen, Germany, and when she entered the Home she brought with her the purpose to introduce kindergarten teaching for the small children. But there was at that time a controversy as to the merits of the systems between Froebel and Pestalozzi: the authorities at Germantown favoring the former, and Mrs. Frankenburg, the latter. The result was the postponement of the introduction of a kindergarten system until the arrival of Miss E. A. Kæhler, who, as teacher, thoroughly reorganized the methods of instruction in the Home.

Soon the old farm-house was entirely inadequate to accommodate those for whom a home had to be provided. It was enlarged. The members increased, and a new building became necessary. The first new building to be erected was the two-story house, built of stone, with a porch all along the south side. It was 60 feet long and 20 feet wide. The corner-stone was laid April 29, 1862. It was designed for a schoolhouse and a dormitory for boys. Later it was used as a workshop, and to accommodate the employees and some of the old men. It was occupied by the aged until after the completion of the new Asylum building. In the report of 1898 Rev. Geo. Ph.

FARM-HOUSE

FIRST BUILDING

Main Building

Mueller, the superintendent, said, that "a printing press was maintained for some time and the 'The Busy Bee' issued from here." In 1892 the second story was fitted up for a hospital. Whatever took place within it, behind it was the wood-pile; and there the boys at times cultivated the pugilistic art. In 1896 it was torn down to make room for the new Boys' Hall.

A new emergency now arose which made all accommodations entirely inadequate. Our Civil War left behind it its terrible ravages of broken families and an increase of orphans. In 1864 the sympathies were deeply stirred; and our Home was among the first to open its doors for the relief of the stricken. In 1865 Miss Sue D. Lehman, Secretary of the Board of Lady Managers, reported that 36 children of soldiers killed in the Civil War had been cared for, for which the Home "received a certain annuity from the State Treasury." As a matter of fact, 98 Civil War orphans were cared for by the Home until the State provided for them in its own institutions. These war orphans were later transferred, by order of the State Superintendent, to Chester Springs, Quakertown, or to some other State institution. But

CIVIL WAR ORPHANS

War Orphans

how could all these children find accommodation in the small houses then standing on the grounds?

"The building near the Home was rented to accommodate the increase of children until the Main Building was erected." This rented building was the Lovett Mansion, still standing, situated on Germantown Avenue, on the opposite side of the street, beyond the Home. In the report of the Home for 1909 there is a cut with the inscription—"The main building (as it was)," in the report for 1898 this same cut is given as "Rented, 1866 to 1868," and described as the "building near the Home rented to accommodate the increase of children until the main building was erected." These children never could have been accommodated in the old farm-house and the Boys' Dormitory; and the corner-stone of the main building (now Administration Building) was laid July 24, 1865. It was, therefore, the Lovett House, which was rented probably between 1864 and 1866 for the special accommodation of these war orphans. Such need was past after the erection of the main building, and also after the removal of these children to State institutions.

THE LOVETT MANSION

The officers of the Home in 1865 were the following: Trustees: President, Lewis Bremer; Secretary, Lewis L. Houpt; Henry Goodman, George Ashmead, William Schollenberger, William L. Schaffer, John L. Frederick, John Rommel, and Frederick Staake. Directress, Mrs. Schaeffer; Secretary, Miss Sue D. Lehman; Treasurer,

George Ashmead; Superintendent, Rev. H. Wendt. The latter was in office from November, 1864, until July, 1867, when he fell under the condemnation of the State because of immoral conduct.

MAIN BUILDING

The need of more permanent and suitable quarters became steadily more imperative. If it was to be a permanent institution, and if there was a need for it,—as was becoming constantly more apparent,—they could not afford to rent a property for the accommodation of the children. They must build. They had no building fund. But they must provide for the children thrust upon their care. With certain misgivings, and yet with firm reliance upon God, they made the arrangements for the erection of the Main Building—the central building in the present group of buildings, which is now known as the Administration Building; and the work was pushed, so that on July 24, 1865, the corner-stone was laid. At that time there were in the Home 125 children—50 girls and 75 boys. The house had a cellar and a basement, three stories, an attic with a cupola. It was surrounded by an areaway. In the cellar were two hot-air furnaces; in the basement were dining-room, kitchen, laundry, and wash room; in the first story, parlor, schoolroom, superintendent's office and dining-room; on the second floor, sewing room, kindergarten room (later), superintendent's and teachers' rooms; on the third floor, bedrooms for children and a sick room; the attic was a storeroom, and later was used also for a boys'

bedroom. The following description of the building and surroundings was given by Superintendent Mueller in the report of 1898: "Nearly 500 feet above tide water, commanding a fine view of Germantown, Chestnut Hill, Roxborough, and adjacent points. From the cupola of the orphanage on a clear day vessels plying on the Delaware River can be distinctly seen, while church spires and tall buildings (such as City Hall) can be outlined all over the city of Philadelphia." He also noted that the Home was only about a ten-minute walk from the Mt. Airy Theological Seminary, a few blocks from St. Michael's Church and Pelham, and not far from the historic Wissahickon. In 1865 a pamphlet was published, containing the constitution and by-laws. It also contains an address by Miss Sue D. Lehman, Secretary of the Board, in which she states that the new building (December 1, 1865) was nearly finished; that its supposed cost was $26,000, and that one-third had already been subscribed and paid to the contractor. She also gives us the information that, at that time, the household expenses for one year amounted to $13,000, and that $2,150 was spent for bread alone. The Home received aid from congregations of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania and of the East Pennsylvania Synod. They also asked help from New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and elsewhere. The total cost of the building was nearly $30,000. It was a heavy burden, and each year the burden seemed to be heavier. Something had to be done. In 1864 the Ministerium of Pennsylvania

made an appropriation to the Home for the care of half-orphans of ministers, and also appointed regular visitors to the Home. In 1869 the Home had to make a formal appeal to the Ministerium for its support, with a request to elect three of the trustees of the Home and so share in its control. But the provisions were not satisfactory; and it was deferred until 1872, when Synod came into complete control by a change of the charter and by the election of six of the nine trustees.

THE GREAT FAIR

In the meantime the emergency of debt and of the overwhelming burden due to the new building and to the ever-increasing expenses of the growing family had to be met. The result was "The Great Fair" of October, 1869, held in Horticultural Hall in Philadelphia for one week. The President of the Fair was Mayor Daniel M. Fox; Secretaries, William H. Staake and John T. Monroe; Cashier, William J. Williams; Corresponding Secretary, Lewis L. Houpt. There were 41 Vice-Presidents, about one-half from Philadelphia, and the rest from the State, with some representatives from New York City and Baltimore. It was a great time. There was an exuberance of enthusiasm and almost universal interest. They sought to clear $30,000, so as "to place the Home above want by a liberal endowment." This was in their mind in the appeal for synodical aid. They made a strong appeal to Christian feeling as well as to the sentiment of patriotism. They referred to what was accomplished "in behalf of the sick and wounded

soldiers during the summer of 1864." They appealed in the name of the orphans, "many of them the children of the noble men who gave their lives in maintaining the Union and perpetuity of our country." Their unusual appeal became almost a demand upon the generous contributions of the charitable—made possible, doubtless, because of the position of Mayor Fox. "We expect the press to aid by words of earnest encouragement so that upon every hand throughout the State we may receive from each workshop, factory, and mill some of the products of their industry from every farmer some contribution from his granary or dairy. Every baker, bookseller, shoemaker, cabinetmaker, tailor, dry-goods and hardware merchant, florist, grocer, saddler, etc., should be willing to give of their goods to feed the poor. We ask women of the Church to exercise their taste and industry in preparing something that, having money value, can be converted into clothing for the children, or into provisions for their bodily sustenance." A most remarkable appeal! No one was to be overlooked. We question whether in America's participation in the Great War of 1917 and 1918 there was any such universal demand for any object, including Red Cross and Liberty Bonds.

Whether as managers or as visitors, the women of the Church have been equal to their responsibility; it is their devotion that has carried the Home through perilous times. And they have certainly carried out their object, "to secure funds for the maintenance of the

institution." As they meet monthly in Zion's Church and quarterly with the Board of Trustees at the Home, they are most deeply concerned with all that pertains to the welfare of the institution. Most zealous have they been in the activities which belong to their sphere, supplying funds for the Home, bedding, and clothing for the children; doing the necessary sewing; furnishing Bibles for the catechumens and Christmas gifts for the employees and for the inmates. Herein we must alter the well-known line of Shakespeare, and say, "Woman, thy name is *devotion*." Surely they will receive the commendation of the Master, "She hath done what she could." But now the time had come when the responsibility should be lifted from their shoulders and placed upon the Church, in the Ministerium of Pennsylvania.

CHAPTER III

CONTROL OF THE MINISTERIUM OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE year 1872 a change was made in the government of the Home. Heretofore the control was in the hands of the Board of Lady Managers. But in 1869 overtures were made to the Ministerium to share in this control and responsibility, because of the difficulties which seemed to require a larger co-operation. Mrs. Steiner says: "They would give us no help unless we placed all under their jurisdiction and their by-laws." Mrs. Schaeffer, the directress, never favored the transfer of control, but it was inevitable; and the Board of Lady Managers yielded to the inevitable in 1872. It was the same year in which, because of an indebtedness of $10,000, the *Lutherische Zeitschrift* suggested that "The whole place should be sold and a new beginning be made in some other place." A new beginning was made when the Ministerium assumed control, but it was made in the same place. This required a change in the charter of the institution. The date of the second amended charter is April 9, 1872, which effected the legal transfer of the institution to the care of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, which was to elect six of the nine trustees. The Board of Lady Managers became the Board of

LADY VISITORS

Lady Visitors, composed of two representatives from each Lutheran congregation of Philadelphia, co-operating in the support of the Home. At the time of the transfer there were nine such congregations—St. Mark's, St. John's, St. Michael's of Germantown, St. Luke's, St. Peter's, German-Zion's, St. James', Emmanuel, and St. Paul's. There were three new congregations taking the place of the three which had dropped out subsequent to 1865, largely because of the formation of the General Council, namely, St. Matthew's, Trinity of Germantown, and St. Thomas' of Germantown. The Lady Visitors had the right to elect three of the trustees and to attend the meetings of the trustees, with the added privilege of a voice but no vote in their deliberations. Their duties were to awaken an interest in the congregations; receive applications for admission into the Home, and make inquiry concerning them. The old by-laws were adopted, with a few changes, relating to the registry of the children, provision for a matron in case of need, and submission of all books brought to the Home to the School Committee for approval. The by-laws also provided that "no child shall be apprenticed to a tavern-keeper, or distiller, rectifier or vender of spirituous or malt liquors." (In a few years from this year of grace, when people of the land shall have become accustomed to the prohibition idea, the foregoing provision will sound strange—as strange as if we were to read of an earlier day such a provision as, "No child shall be *sold as a slave.*") The Board of Trustees now superseded the

Board of Lady Managers in the entire management of the Home and in the appointment of all employees.

One of the first representatives of the Board of Lady Visitors on the Board of Trustees was the Rev. Dr. Adolph Spaeth,* who always showed a deep interest in the Home, shared by the congregation he served, St. Johannis, of Philadelphia. The first of his series of "Hero Lectures" was on Savonarola, and was delivered for the benefit of the Orphans' Home. He served for a few months as Recording Secretary; was a member of the School Committee and also of the Spiritual Committee, directed "to take care of the spiritual needs of the old people in the Asylum." He was with the board until 1890.

DR. SPAETH

Through its location in Germantown and its proximity to St. Michael's Church it was but natural that that congregation should feel itself a foster-mother of the institution, and be deeply interested and active in all that pertained to its welfare. It was equal to every expectation. For sixty years St. Michael's Church has worked faithfully and zealously for the Home through its Dorcas Society. Generously did it provide a burying-place for the deceased inmates of the Home, as long as it could, in its rapidly filling graveyard. It was the regular place of worship for the inmates of the Home until the Asylum, with its chapel, was ready for use, and the

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

* Life of Adolph Spaeth, D.D., LL.D., by Mrs. Harriet Krauth Spaeth.

numbers had so greatly increased, that the Home was able to have a congregation and a Sunday-school for itself. In 1890 it was reported that in the preceding sixteen years 121 persons were received from the Home into St. Michael's by confirmation. And even after the services were introduced in the Home the children were taken by St. Michael's Sunday-school on its annual pic-

Old St. Michael's, Germantown

nic, to the great delight of the children. Pastors and people were always interested in and connected with the work of the Home.

MISS KÆHLER

Perhaps its greatest contribution to the institution was its furnishing the teacher of the Home, in the person of Miss E. A. Kæhler, the sister of the Rev. Dr. F. A. Kæhler, now of Buffalo,

N. Y., but who was then Pastor of St. Michael's Church. It certainly was not the salary that attracted her, for she received but a nominal sum—a mere pittance. Rather it was her love and her desire to do something to give the children a proper training to fit them for life. Those who knew her best and the record of her life will appreciate the reminiscence, as given by Mrs. Pleibel, when she says, "One of the most self-sacrificing characters that I ever knew was Miss Kæhler." "In those days it was not a question of prominence or influence, but of doing good, in the spirit of self-sacrifice." Her first task was to reorganize the entire school system thoroughly. A kindergarten was established and advanced methods of instruction introduced, while higher studies were provided for those who showed special aptitude.

FIRST CANDIDATES FOR THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

By 1882 two of her pupils were ready to enter Muhlenberg College of Allentown, Pa.—Charles W. Jefferis and Ernest T. Kretschmann, both doing very creditable work and graduating from college in 1886, the latter as the first honor man of his class. Both entered the Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and were ordained to the office of the Holy Ministry. The former has served charges in Chester, Pa., Brooklyn and Jamestown, N. Y., North Wales, Pa., and Doylestown, Pa. The latter became the pastor of the historic Trappe Church, whose history he published at the time of the Sesquicentennial celebration of the founding of the Church of

Muhlenberg. He likewise graduated from the post-graduate school of the University of Pennsylvania in 1892 with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. In 1884 another pupil was ready for college. Through the generosity of Mr. William Schaeffer and his sister, Miss Elizabeth Schaeffer, former members of the Church of the Holy Communion of Philadelphia, Miss Kæhler was enabled to enter him at the University of Pennsylvania. Graduating from that institution in 1888, he entered the Theological Seminary of Philadelphia, and in 1891 was ordained to the office of the Holy Ministry. He served charges in Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa., Buffalo, N. Y., and West Philadelphia. Little did he then think that he would some day write the history of the Home, in which the kindness of divine Providence came to him through the agency of the Church.

Miss Kæhler taught in the Home for a period of eleven years, and was succeeded by Miss Louise Kaesemann, having resigned her office August 11, 1890, to accept a position as Principal of Daly Hall in Thiel College, Greenville, Pa. She received a warm testimonial on leaving the Home. When Mrs. Riedt resigned, Miss Kæhler was considered for the position of matron of the Home, August 10, 1890. And on September 7, 1891, the Board of Trustees extended to her a call to become the superintendent; but as she was unable immediately to accept the position, it was dropped.

We must associate with the record of those days the gratuitous services of Mr. J. W. Bennett and Miss

Fannie Smith (Mrs. Ketcham) in teaching instrumental and vocal music; of Dr. Shellenberger, the physician, and of Mrs. Anna Snyder, the seamstress. Among the aged inmates, Mr. Carl F. Vogelbach was the tailor for ten years, and Mr. Keim served as shoemaker for a number of years.

NEW ASYLUM

The new Asylum for the aged and infirm was built in 1879. As early as 1873 Ex-Mayor Daniel M. Fox, President of the Board of Trustees, had an architect prepare plans for a new Asylum. And Mrs. Steiner says that Mr. Bremer, of Boston, promised to give $5000 toward a certain sum for the erection of a new building in place of the old one. After the completion of the Administration Building and the removal of the children thereto, the old building which stood near Germantown Avenue had been reserved for the aged and infirm. In 1877 this was described as follows: "The old original house first used as an Orphans' Home is now occupied as an infirmary for the old people; this building is very old and much dilapidated."

"The School House" had also been used for this purpose but was entirely unsuited. In that year there were 25 inmates in the Asylum, exclusive of the employees. The oldest was Mrs. Appel, aged ninety-three years; the next, Mrs. Norogonz, aged ninety-two years. The youngest was a deaf-mute, Lizzie Hess, aged twenty-seven years, who was in delicate health and

A PART OF THE SECOND HOUSE

who served in the dining-room and scullery. The matron of the Asylum had her hands full; and better accommodations were sorely needed. Up to 1877 three men and 44 women had been admitted into the Asylum, ranging in age from twenty-two years to ninety-seven years. In May of that year the Board of Trustees presented to the Ministerium of Pennsylvania a memorial on the crowded condition of the Asylum, asking that provision be made for the erection of a more suitable building. The Ministerium took the following action:

"Whereas, This Ministerium is fully and earnestly impressed with the necessity of providing for the aged of our communion, and of a home in their declining years for disabled Lutheran clergymen and their wives, —and impressed with the need of better accommodations, it commends the project to the special attention and active effort of each pastor and congregation within this jurisdiction." The historian of that year expressed the hope that it might be promptly attended to and especially to provide for clergymen, "a department of the work of beneficence and mercy which has never yet been provided for in any locality in this country." (The Church of our day is seeking to meet this want with the provision of Ministerial pensions.)

On February 21, 1878, the "Tea Party" was held in Horticultural Hall, which netted the sum of $2789.10, part of which became a nucleus for the new Asylum. In the following year the plans were ready and the contract

COMPLETION OF THE NEW ASYLUM

was given to a reliable builder of Germantown, Mr. Martin Hetzel, a member of St. Michael's Church. The corner-stone was laid June 6, 1879; and the building was dedicated May 13, 1880. It was a brick structure, costing about $22,000, 140 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 60 feet wide in the two extreme wings, with an ample basement for all domestic purposes. There were three stories, the upper one not being completed until 1894. Two stories were fitted out with single sleeping rooms for the family of inmates and employees. In the east wing of the first floor was the parlor and sitting-room; and in the west wing, the chapel. Here church services were held, and in due time the children were confirmed. The first class of catechumens was confirmed by Dr. Mann on May 26, 1892. In that year there was a general improvement of the grounds. Twenty years after the founding of the Home there was evidence of a permanent institution to carry out the original intention to provide a home for both orphans and aged.

No one can understand the spirit of the Germantown Home without an appreciation of its annual Donation Day, held generally about the middle of June. The

DONATION DAY

first Donation Day was observed Ascension Day, Thursday, May 27, 1881. In that year Mrs. Rittenhouse, of Germantown, had been impressed by her experience at the Donation Day of the Hahnemann Hospital of

Philadelphia and suggested that it be tried also for the benefit of the Home. She had the sympathy of the ladies, and Mrs. Steiner, the President of the Board of Lady Visitors, with the co-operation of Mrs. Pleibel and the other members of the Board, carried out the suggestion. So successful was the first experiment that it became an annual event; and it has been observed ever since. All helped to make the day a success. The ladies were the special agents to work in the congregations. Donation bags were provided for the churches. These were filled and sent out to the Home beforehand. Provision was made to serve meals, and friends were urged to visit the institution on that day. St. Michael's ladies had a table for fancy articles and flowers; St. Mark's, for ice cream. At first they served only hundreds; now, in our day, they serve thousands. The day is not merely a day of donations and for the improvement of the finances of the Home, but a day for the coming together of friends from far and near, who are united together in the spirit of loving devotion. It has become a general reunion day, with untold blessing to the institution and to the cause of Christian benevolence. It is the climax of the activities of the year in the interest of the Home, and comes after the annual meeting of the Ministerium. For Donation Day of 1918–19, the ladies were prepared to report that they had received and disbursed the sum of $3549. And Donation Day, June 12, 1919, closed the $60,000 campaign, when the campaign clock on the grounds

announced the fact that all the efforts had gone "over the top."

Up to 1877 the Home had cared for 47 aged people and 404 orphans, including the 98 soldiers' orphans who were transferred to the State institutions as soon as they were ready to admit them. Up to 1890 the record shows that 110 persons had been cared for in the Asylum—20 men and 90 women; and that they had received 562 orphans—358 boys and 204 girls. The children were taught to work—the boys on the farm, and the girls were taught sewing, washing, ironing, cooking, and the usual domestic arts. Sometimes the boys, by industry, were able to earn wages, made brooms, and were useful in mending and making shoes for the inmates. Occasionally some of the boys tried their luck in wandering away from the institution, but without success. Up to 1877 there were 13 runaways, some of whom were recovered; five were transferred to the House of Refuge; others were never located, and they were dropped from the roll of inmates. What has become of these boys and of all the children who have passed through the Institution? What an interesting chapter that would make in the records of the benevolence of the Church! A tracing of their life after leaving the Home might give some satisfaction to the many faithful men and women of the Church who have made sacrifices that the poor and needy should be cared for. As the needs of the institution grew, so the circle of friends grew, and interest was developed. In 1885 the

RECORDS

Home was able to report that the Ministerium had adopted a resolution providing that a committee should be appointed in every congregation to represent the interests of the Home in that field.

In 1890 the Home passed through a sore trial when a great calamity befell its treasury, a full account of which is found in the historical sketch of 1904. The defalcation of its treasurer amounted to upward of $40,000, of which amount about $10,000 was returned to the institution by the distressed family. The loss was entirely in the bequest fund (all bequest money was lost except $5300), and was not of the contributions of individuals, of Sunday-schools, or of Donation Day. The year marks the opening of a new era, for a change took place both within the institution and among its friends. The entire Board resigned. The resignation, however, was not accepted by the Ministerium and they were continued. The confidence of the Church was momentarily shaken, but in the kind Providence of God was soon restored. Gradually interest returned, and in a little while it was seen that the misfortune had become a blessing. The Board now met monthly instead of quarterly. There was increased interest, and there were greater sacrifices; and the people of the Church rallied to its support, so that, within a comparatively short time, the Home was on its feet and moving forward into larger usefulness.

FINANCIAL CRISIS

CHAPTER IV

PERIOD OF EXPANSION

THE year 1890 "marks a new era," when a "complete change took place in the Institution itself and among its friends." A great trial had passed. God was the friend of the orphan; and Mr. Henry Lehman was the man at the helm. Mr. Lehman was the President of the institution, which office he filled for twenty-five years, from July, 1879, to February, 1904. He was a trustee from July, 1873. Because of the pressure brought to bear upon him, he was willing also to take upon himself the heavy responsibilities of the treasurership until the finances could get on a sure basis again. He acted as Treasurer from May, 1890, to April, 1892, in which time, through his able leadership, in association with many faithful friends, the full confidence of the Church was restored.

Mr. Lehman was born in Württemberg, Germany, February 23, 1819. He came to America with his parents in 1824. When thirteen years old he became a member of Zion's German Lutheran congregation, and was trained in the parochial school, where he met his life-long friend, who afterward became the Rev. George F. Krotel, D.D., LL.D. Mr. Lehman steadily advanced in his business career, first as a baker, then a miller, and

HENRY LEHMAN

then lithographer and printer, becoming the senior member of the well-known firm of Lehman & Bolton, of Philadelphia. He was in business in Philadelphia from 1872. He made his home in Norristown since 1841, where he was known as the "grand old man," and where he served on the Town Council for eighteen years, and as its president for twelve years. He was one of the organizers of Trinity Church, Norristown, and a deacon of that congregation for thirty-six years. He served as a trustee of Muhlenberg College, Allentown, for twenty years, and as a director of the Philadelphia Theological Seminary for eighteen years. There were two positions dear unto his heart—the superintendency of Trinity Sunday-school and the presidency of the Home at Germantown. Trinity Church-paper said of him that he was the "Patriarch of Trinity and the father of many orphans and aged of the Lutheran Church." In his Sunday-school superintendency of fifty-two years he missed but three Sundays, and was absent from the Christmas Festival only twice. He was active in the General Council and in the Ministerium, and served on many important committees. "The Lutheran" said of him, "No man did more to commend the cause of the orphans to the assembled Synod and to different congregations which he visited. His heart was in his work, and he proved himself a most devoted father of the fatherless." On March 13, 1899, his eightieth birthday was appropriately celebrated at the Home, when he presented the Home with a gift of $1000. He died in

Norristown, February 19, 1904, mourned by a large circle of friends. *His works do follow him.* The Home report of 1908 announced that the enlargement of the Chapel of the Asylum was a memorial to Mr. Lehman, made possible through a gift of $5000 by his daughters.

As it was said at his funeral, Mr. Lehman possessed the indomitable courage of leadership. The secret of his success was "the power of child-like prayer at the family altar." Such was the testimony * of Rev. Dr. F. J. F. Schantz at the funeral service; and it was based upon his experience while a guest in Mr. Lehman's home during a convention of the General Council. Mr. Lehman was a man of sturdy principles, a Lutheran of loyalty and faithfulness in every duty laid upon him, in the narrower and broader sphere of the Church's activity, an ardent lover of the Church and her institutions, and thoroughly consecrated to the cause of the orphans. And when he died, his life-long friend, Dr. Krotel, said of him, "Those with whom he was associated will ever think of him as a good and faithful servant whose place it will be hard to fill."

In the reconstruction of the Home, Mr. Lehman had the support of such men as Dr. Spaeth, Dr. Mann, and Rev. F. P. Bender. In those days the Rev. F. Wischan

* The writer can add similar testimony from his experience while a guest in Mr. Lehman's home. And he would urge upon every reader of this history, who values his religion and desires the progress of Christ's Kingdom, to restore family worship and gain therefrom the power that has sustained men of faith and achievement.

was a prominent supporter of the Home. He passed to his reward April 28, 1905, after having served the interests of the institution for a period of twenty-seven years. He was recognized to be a faithful, persevering, steadfast friend of the orphan and of the poor and neglected. He was also prominently identified with the Samaritan Shelter of Philadelphia. Another ardent supporter of Mr. Lehman was the Rev. J. F. C. Fluck, who is still with us—one of the oldest and most faithful members of the Board of Trustees.

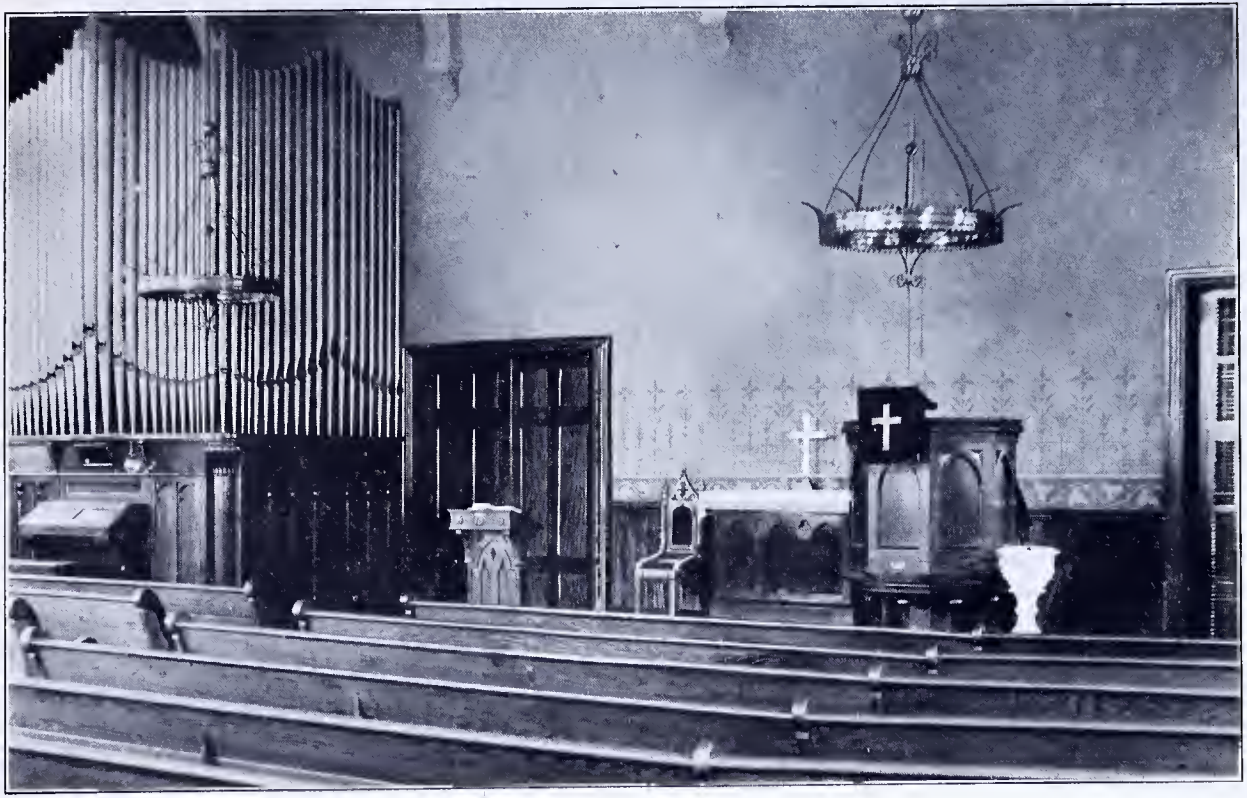
In 1890 two men entered the Board at the same time, who were to take a prominent part in the work of the reconstruction, the one was Rev. J. E. Nidecker, D.D., then pastor of Zion's congregation, and now president of the board, and the other was the Rev. Charles J. Hirzel, pastor of Christ Church, Chestnut Hill, and subsequently of St. Paul's of Philadelphia. Pastor Hirzel served as secretary of the Home for a period of twenty years, succeeding in that office his father-in-law, Mr. Reuben B. Miller. We cannot fail to mention Mr. Leonard Sefing, of Allentown, who passed to his reward February, 1912, and who was succeeded on the board by his son, Mr. John Sefing. He left behind him memories of great blessings to the Home, for both children and aged. He was known as the "Egg Uncle," because of his interest in securing many eggs for the institution. He had a large and generous nature; it was through him that an extremely serviceable cement bath-tub was provided for the boys. Hon. William H. Staake, Esq., was

an important factor in those days, giving gratuitously much legal service to the institution. In 1907, after faithful and interested services, extending over a period of more than thirty-five years, he was constrained to resign his office of solicitor for the Home, having been elected Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the city of Philadelphia.

The Superintendent of the Home was an essential factor in the reconstruction of that period. Rev. George P. Mueller was known in the Church for his earnestness and faithfulness, and when the office of the superintendent became vacant in 1891, the Church turned to Mr. Mueller as one in whom it could have confidence and who would be able, by his personal influence with pastors and congregations, to win back the confidence of the people. The whole record of his career until June 29, 1900, when he was suddenly stricken and passed to his reward, following a severe attack of typhoid fever, proved that the Church's confidence had not been misplaced. He was the man for the office and proved equal to the responsibility.

SUPERINTENDENT MUELLER

In 1891 the Home was thoroughly renovated and at a considerable cost. It was furnished in modern style. The schoolroom was equipped with modern appliances at a cost of about $231. The entire building was painted within and without. The Lady Visitors were especially active. In November, 1891, more powers were granted to their committees in the management of certain parts



Chapel

of the Home. They secured new beds, bedding, carpets, and furnishings at a cost of about $1245. New iron bedsteads were provided by special gifts from congregations and individuals. Other congregations provided for the kitchen and dining-room. In 1894 attention turned to the Asylum, and especially to the chapel, where church services were now regularly conducted in both English and German for the benefit of the aged and the orphans. Congregations, societies, and individuals were appealed to, to make special gifts—a full account of which is contained in the Home report of 1895. The result was that the third story of the Asylum was now completed and fitted out for an additional boys' dormitory over the chapel, and other rooms for the aged. And the chapel was thoroughly renovated, all being paid for by the donation of memorials, including painting, frescoing of walls, new altar, reading desk, pulpit, baptismal font, stained-glass windows, and 29 memorial pews. The reconsecration of the Chapel took place May 9, 1895. On January 28, 1909, the new pipe-organ was dedicated, the memorial gift of Mrs. L. Raynor.

In the progress of years the usual children's diseases, such as scarlet fever, measles, mumps, and tonsillitis, were in evidence in the Home; but they were ordinarily kept under control. Sometimes, however, even with the best of care, they became epidemics.

EPIDEMICS

In the spring of 1892 la grippe entered the Home, affecting nearly all the children. Some were very severely prostrated. In the spring of 1896

diphtheria, that dread disease, found its way among the children. The first to succumb was little Stella Moyer, a bright child of seven years of age. She was prostrated April 15, 1896. Though a very sick child, she was bright and talkative. Superintendent Mueller describes the close of her life. "On Friday morning she sat up in bed, and overshadowing her large dark eyes with her little thin hand, she looked intently through the window, down into the garden, and then into the distance, as if in search of some one.* Dropping back upon her pillow again, she said with an air of disappointment: 'They are not coming yet.' This she repeated a second time. Then she asked: 'Shall I rap for them?' Raising herself in bed, and resting on her elbow, she rapped three times at the head of the bed. Then looking out of the window, she exclaimed with joy: 'They are coming! They are coming!' After a while she said, with a happy smile, pointing her finger around the room, 'They cannot get out.' At noon of that day the little bright soul was carried to her rest." Soon 13 children were in the infirmary. After a brief respite there were 14 more cases, which were sent to the Municipal Hospital. The total number stricken with diphtheria that year was 33. Only one died. All returned well from the hospital. A Cape May cottage was rented for the convalescent children. The year 1896 showed the desirability of having a seashore home for the orphan children. It also showed

* She had visions of that winged host—guardian angels who always are abroad to minister to the heirs of salvation.

the necessity of larger accommodations for the children at the Home. Superintendent Mueller stood firm under the heavy strain. By his side was his faithful wife, with a baby in her arms. Their own daughter was also stricken with the disease. We wish we could give the entire roll of honor. The following are worthy of special mention: Miss Anna Hoerr, the Assistant to the Matron, Miss Kathinka Bredenbek, the nurse, "true and noble deaconess," Miss Alice Nissley, the cook, and Miss Minnie Rohlfs, the teacher.

When the great epidemic of influenza and pneumonia spread over the country in 1918, and thousands perished throughout the land, resulting in the closing of churches and schools and public places, our Home at Germantown suffered severely. One hundred and thirty-six were sick in bed at one time, including the superintendent, Mrs. Eisenhardt, and her assistant (her sister) Mrs. Gummey. Only three of the children died—an unusual record, considering the number that were stricken. "The night brings out the stars." With great personal risks noble men and women of our Philadelphia congregations came to the rescue. *We wish we could publish all their names!* God knows them, every one. He knows their service of love. "Whoso receiveth one such little child in my name, receiveth me." Among those who assisted were Dr. Bauer, of the medical staff, with his noble, self-sacrificing labors; the woman doctor of the Board of Health; and two former inmates* who

* Elsie Hainke and Dorothy Kirn.

had become nurses. But, above all, there was the kind Providence of the Father in Heaven, watching over His children and blessing the self-sacrificing efforts of Christian love and devotion.

THE BOYS' WING

The diphtheria epidemic of 1896 emphasized the need of better accommodations. The realization of this need was made possible by a bequest of $10,000 May 9, 1892, from Miss Elizabeth Schaeffer, of the Church of the Holy Communion, and by the use of similar available legacies. The plans were made and the work progressed rapidly. By September 10, 1896, the corner-stone of the Boys' Wing was laid, and the new building was dedicated June 4, 1897. It is a large brick building, with two stories and a basement, containing 32 large rooms for the accommodation of the boys and also for the employees. At the same time, under pressure of the Board of Health and the city authorities, a steam boiler house and laundry were erected. The building operations of 1896 cost about $45,000. Because of the unusual drain upon the treasury, together with the falling off of gifts of money and of other donations, the Board of the Home sent out a "Special Call for Help" to the pastors and people of the Ministerium in the year 1897.

In November, 1901, the Home had a valuable acquisition in the person of Mr. Wm. P. M. Braun, who became the treasurer of the institution, and whose entire record cannot be given because he is still with us; a most zealous and industrious friend of the Home, back of

THE TREASURY

every movement for the betterment of the affairs of the institution. There is a record of his memorial gift of $1000; a donation of a phonograph; of the chapel chandeliers; the complete renovation and refurnishing of the entire first floor of the Administration Building, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Braun. One of the first and most valuable achievements in his new office was to secure a clear title for the Orphans' Home property, which was gotten with the aid of Judge Staake, after a painstaking and persistent effort of more than a year. He proved his devotion to the Home in 1908, 1909, and 1910, when, on three different occasions, he was confined in the hospital because of a serious operation, and where, without interruption, with Mrs. Braun's assistance, he conducted his treasurer's office. In 1909 he provided a memorial tablet for the Home, to contain "The names of the persons who had kindly remembered the Home in their wills." This has a place in the main hall of the Administration Building. Some time ago it bore the names of 170 such friends and new tablets are ever required to carry the names of the ever-increasing host of friends who wish their charitable interests to continue in operation long after they have departed this life. In 1885 the treasurer reported a bequest of the Rev. C. F. Heyer, D.D., to the amount of $150, through the Rev. W. A. Passavant, D.D. In 1892 they reported an improvement in the treasury, so that the endowment fund had again increased to $30,589.68. For this improvement much

credit was due to Mr. Lehman, the President-Treasurer, and to Rev. Fr. Wischan, the German secretary. The bequest fund has steadily increased through the years, so that in 1902 it amounted to $54,043.18. But in 1907 the Secretary had to issue a warning to the people of the Church, so that they might not be deceived by reports of immense bequests which were never realized. One case was given of a bequest of all real and personal property to the amount of $200,000, but the testator died within the time fixed by law as necessary for validity of a will. Accordingly, the court ruled and declared the would-be benefactor intestate. Another case was cited of a large bequest made with certain provisions; but the Home received not a cent of it. Such a warning was needed, lest the people should fail in their regular and continuous support. Thus in 1917 the expenses of the year for feeding, housing, and clothing amounted to about $45,000, leaving a deficit in the treasury of about $10,000, to meet which money had to be drawn from the bequest fund made up of legacies not specially designated.

Yet the institution had to grow; and those charged with its responsibilities saw the necessity, and in the face of all limitations pushed forward. In 1902 the ground to the north of the original site, known as the Garrett property, was secured; and also the ground to the south—the Leibert property. This ground was purchased below the cost value because the respective owners believed that the Home should have the

property. The enlarged ground gave a total frontage on Germantown Avenue of 400 feet. For some time there had been a desire to have a Girls' Wing toward the south, to correspond with the Boys' Wing to the north; and in 1904 the need of a large auditorium suitable for public occasions was felt. The ground was there, and the purpose and plan; but there was need of a kind-hearted donor of such an unconditional legacy or gift. The work had to be done. Mr. Carl P. Berger was selected as architect; and the brick building of two stories and a basement was constructed at a cost of $34,275. The corner-stone was laid March 24, 1906, and the structure was dedicated on November 15. It is the counterpart of the Boys' Wing, and contains the large Kuhlemeier Auditorium,* the memorial gift of Mrs. Bertha Braun and Miss Emma Kuhlemeier, in memory of their parents, William and Fredericka Kuhlemeier.

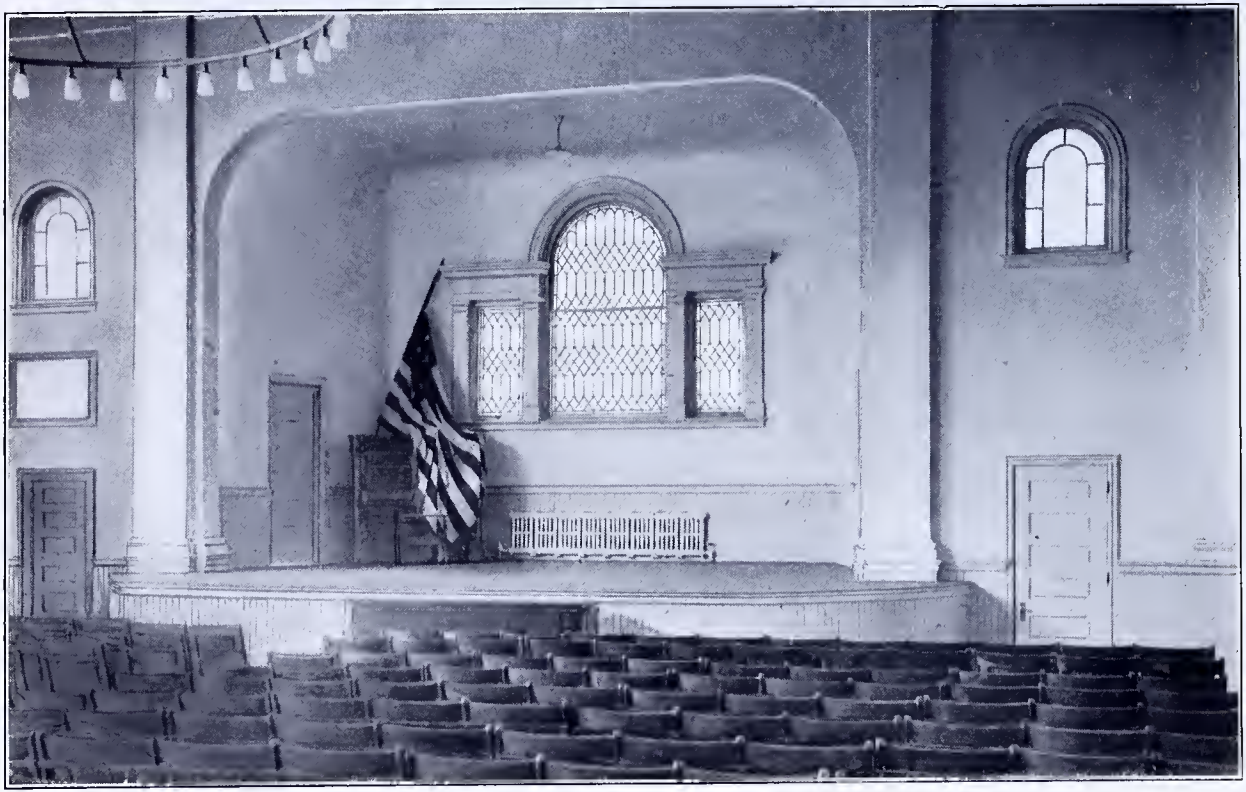
THE GIRLS' WING AND AUDITORIUM

A most important factor in the progress of the last twenty years has been the character of the one in charge of the Home in its inner workings and responsibilities—the soul of the institution. Mrs. Eisenhardt entered the service of the Home with her husband, Rev. George C. Eisenhardt. Pastor Eisenhardt was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and of the Philadelphia Theological Seminary. He had also taken post-graduate

MRS. EISENHARDT

* Made possible by a donation of $10,000.

studies in Germany. He became the assistant pastor of St. Johannis' Church, and was in association with Dr. Spaeth, sharing in the interest of the pastor and people, which they had ever manifested in the Germantown Home. Accordingly, when there was a vacancy in the office of the superintendent they turned to St. Johannis' Church. Rev. Eisenhardt was called in July, 1900, and entered upon his duties October 2. His service was most hearty, for he entered into the spirit of the institution and espoused the interests of the orphans and aged. But it was not to be of long duration, as he was called to his reward November 29, 1902. Mrs. Eisenhardt had been so valuable to her husband, and had become so thoroughly identified with the work, that she was immediately chosen to succeed her husband in office, first as matron, with all the powers of the superintendent, and soon thereafter as superintendent, in complete charge of the institution. The record of twenty years has proved that no mistake was made in such choice. She has been a good and faithful servant; and as the historian writes these words, it is with regret that he learns of her resignation in the beginning of the year 1920—because of the state of her health. In her twenty years of service Mrs. Eisenhardt has been in charge of more than half of those who have been cared for by the institution. While of necessity she had to be firm and positive in her control of the inmates, she was at heart their friend and in many cases a real mother. She ever tried to fulfil the needs of the children and gratify the wishes of their



AUDITORIUM

interested friends. The Board of Trustees found her a willing servant and a wise superintendent.

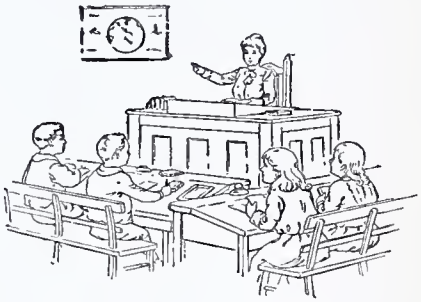
She was also fortunate in having the aid of her two sisters. One, Miss Ottilia W. M. Maurer, held the position of Assistant Matron for a number of years. She was gifted with an exceptionally cheerful disposition. On September 12, 1914, while the grounds were filling with parents and children of the Philadelphia German congregations for the celebration of Children's Day, she was suddenly stricken with heart failure and passed to her eternal reward. At her funeral service Dr. Nidecker characterized her as the sunshine of the house, loved by the children as well as by the employees, Lady Visitors, and friends. She acted as house-physician for the lesser troubles and ailments, and her ministrations were preferred by the smaller boys to those of the regular physician. Another sister, Mrs. Emma M. Gummey, succeeded her and became the Assistant Superintendent and house-physician. In her warm heart originated the idea of a seashore home for weak and convalescent children. The beginning was made with ten dollars, the result of a sale of fancy articles, the work of the children of the Home. She fostered the sentiment and continued to collect money. By 1916 she had $500 from the sale of fancy articles. On August 12, 1916, she suggested to the Young People's Auxiliary that they take a hand in the raising of funds for a seashore home, and on November 21, 1916, Mr. Henry H. Ottens, of Wildwood, N. J., offered the Auxiliary a piece of property for $900,

consisting of three lots located on Sixteenth Street near Surf Avenue. The Auxiliary decided to purchase it; and the sincere thanks of the Church are due to Mr. Ottens for this generous offer. In the year 1917 Mrs. Gummey was able to pay over into the treasury the amount needed to make the purchase of the lots for the "Home by the Sea" in Wildwood, N. J. The lots were worth $1800, but Mr. Ottens, who is a large-hearted, generous Lutheran, sold the lots at half price, and added two other lots, making a total frontage of 150 feet and a depth of 100 feet. The lots are now easily worth $5000. As soon as the cottage is erected the property will be exempt from taxation.

THE TRAINING OF THE CHILDREN

The institution has always given special attention to the training of the children, that they might become useful members of society. The children are trained to work, and they are likewise trained to study. The most important aim of the latter is moral and religious. The text-books are the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism. The proximity of the Theological Seminary was a providential blessing, as the students at different times were able to render service in this direction. When the Rev. E. L. Leisey, Pastor of St. Paul's Church of Numidia, Pennsylvania, was a seminary student, he was employed at the Home and gave assistance in a number of ways—according to his own description, as a "big brother, a Bible School teacher, playground director, chauffeur, and general utility man."

In September, 1912, an important change took place in the educational policy of the institution. Heretofore all the secular instruction of the children was given at the Home. Some of the older children were now permitted to enter the public school at Mt. Airy. The report of the following year showed satisfactory results. The instruction was supplemented at the Home with instruction in religion and German. In 1918 there were 86 of the older children in the Mt. Airy School. Meanwhile the first and second grades, as well as the kindergarten, were taught in the Home under competent teachers. There were, in addition, five attending the Philadelphia high schools, one, in a business college, and another was in the Ladies' Seminary at Bethlehem. Several scholarships were available at Temple College of Philadelphia and at Strayer's Business College.



At School

For a long time there was need felt of making some provision for infants. Here, for instance, is a little family of five children suddenly deprived of mother and father. The older children could enter the Home; but the youngest of two or three years of age—what shall be done with this child? It seems heartless to turn the baby away and to separate it from brothers and sisters.

In 1911 there was definite expression of the need of a nursery for those of tender age. In May, 1913, an additional strip of the Leibert property to the south was secured, including the Leibert residence, at a cost of $20,000. The house was thoroughly renovated and prepared for use as a "Memorial Home for Infants," in the hope that some kind donor would accept the opportunity of becoming a sponsor for the memorial. The Baby Home has been the special object of care of the Young People's Auxiliary, through whose agency the sun-parlor was installed in the year 1916.

NEW PROPERTY

On April 9, 1914, through the kindness of Mr. F. Swayne, the executor of the Tryon Estate, the Home came into possession of the old Tryon property, a tract of land nearly two acres in extent, with the residence, situated at Twenty-ninth Street and Glenwood Avenue, along the Pennsylvania Railroad. This property was appraised at a value of $30,000. It was donated as a free gift, the only stipulation being that it shall be used as a Lutheran charity, to be known as "Mary Tryon Memorial." In January, 1917, permission was granted to sell a strip of the land along the railroad, which brought in $3000. The house was dedicated December 4, 1915, as the Mary J. Tryon Annex to the Lutheran Orphanage and Asylum for the Aged and Infirm of Germantown, Philadelphia. One of the members of the family, Mr. Charles Z. Tryon, was present and delivered the address of the occasion. It is

TRYON ANNEX

part of an old estate and is filled with memories precious to the Tryon family, to whom it is likewise a satisfaction to know that it is in the hands of the Church and being used for charitable purposes. From the beginning it was in charge of the Rev. and Mrs. D. M. Stetler, as superintendent and matron. In 1916 Mr. Stetler closed his long and faithful ministry, falling asleep in Christ while in charge of the Annex. Mrs. Stetler found it necessary to resign the care of the house soon thereafter. Mrs. C. Odenthal succeeded her and did noble service until the Home became the homestead for girls under the auspices of the Lutheran Women's League of Philadelphia, since August, 1920.

In the Home report of 1917 the trustees announced the purchase of a triangular strip of land at the corner of Maurer and Sedgwick Streets.

The latest acquisition of property has been the purchase of Dr. Aldrich's house at 15 W. Carpenter Street, February 28, 1919, for $16,000. The dimensions of the ground are 80 by 211 feet, the rear end adjoining the ground of the Orphans' Home. The property consists of a stone house with three stories and a brick stable, both in excellent condition. The house is regarded the best of the whole group. It was opened May 1, 1919, as a Junior House for boys ranging in age from four to seven years. The stable will be used for a garage.

Benjamin Franklin, with his practical instinct of success, knew the importance of getting a number of people interested in a common endeavor. The successful and

permanent development of an institution depends to a great extent upon securing the co-operation of many people and organizing them into different groups united together by certain natural bonds of attraction, and all together finding their center in a common cause and unitedly concentrating their energies for its success. First in point of time came the Board of Lady Managers, representing and involving the co-operation of the various congregations of Philadelphia; next came the Board of Trustees, representing and in like manner involving an entire synod of congregations, with the co-operation of Lady Visitors, representing and involving the congregations most closely associated with the institution. The third step involved the co-operation of all the conferences into which the Synod was divided. An Advisory Board was created. The suggestion had originated with Mrs. Eisenhardt, the superintendent, in May, 1912. Synod approved the plan in June, 1915; and the Advisory Board became a fact, being first named a Board of Co-operation. The Advisory Board is composed of two representatives, a minister and a layman, from each of the conferences. They are nominated by the presidents of the respective conferences, subject to suggestions of the Board of Trustees and appointed at the conference meetings, to serve as long as deemed advisable by the president. They always attend the quarterly meetings of the Board, and the other meetings when possible; they have a voice, but, of course, no vote

ORGANIZED HELP

according to constitutional provision. They are the connecting link between the conference with its congregations and the Home. Their object is to see to the proper presentation of the interests of the institution at the meetings of their conference, in congregations and wherever the opportunity presents itself, and in every way to awaken an interest in and to disseminate information concerning the institution's work. They are to aid in soliciting and in properly forwarding gifts of money and goods for the maintenance of the institution, and to assist in the investigation of applications for admission of persons residing within the bounds of their respective conferences. They hold themselves in readiness to attend to any work that may be referred to them by the trustees for the welfare of the Home. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to dissolve the Advisory Board at any time when the interests of the institution require it. The new board has, however, served its purpose and has become extremely helpful to the institution. The interest of the conferences has been steadily increasing through their consecrated efforts.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S AUXILIARY

The interest of the young people of the Church in the Orphans' Home is represented by the Young People's Auxiliary. This association was organized on June 25, 1915, through Mrs. Eisenhardt, and under the leadership of Mrs. Adolph Woll. They are as busy as bees, and constantly alive to the interests of the Home. They are thoroughly organized. There are four

large local circles with complete organizations. In the membership of the Auxiliary there are representatives of 41 congregations. Their chief interest has been the Memorial Home for Infants; and through Mrs. Gummey's leadership, the seashore home at Wildwood, N. J. What a record of activity they have! Donation Day, with its useful and fancy article booth; the Annual Luther League Rally at the Home; Mrs. Gummey's Fair at Wildwood; the Autumn Festival; the Christmas celebration for the babies; the concert of the Muhlenberg College Glee Club under its auspices; the Musical and the Coffee Social. They are willing to engage in any laudable enterprise for the benefit of the Home. We wonder who derives the greater good out of the relationship, the Home or the young people. We ought to know. Mr. Harvey R. Kiefaber is the energetic representative of the Auxiliary in the Board of Trustees.

The Church has always had the service of the ordained ministers. The women of the Church have always been identified with the Church's life and work. The young people have been banded together to promote its interests. But the Church values its men. It needs its men, with their energy and strength, and needs their support. This want is ably filled by the Laymen's Co-operative Association. The men were aroused in the churches. They noted the insufficient support of the Home; the absence of men on Donation Day, and the general need of an increase of

LAYMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

Old People's Home

interest on the part of men, in this important part of the work of the Church. The first meeting to discuss the situation with the Board of Trustees was held in May, 1916. The result was that a resolution was adopted to have the Ministerium permit the Board to change its charter, so as to increase the membership from nine to twelve. In June the Board adopted the resolution and it was passed by Synod. On November 6, 1916, 44 men, under the leadership of such men as Messrs. Schmidt and Kiefaber, representing 27 congregations, met in the Church of the Nativity, to take the preliminary steps. On November 27, 48 men again assembled to effect a permanent organization by the election of officers and the adoption of a constitution. The Rev. H. A. Weller, D.D., President of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, was present to give his approval and to lend encouragement to the project.

The Association has steadily grown in numbers and in interest. There is at present a membership of 700 men, representing 76 congregations, two-thirds of which are within Philadelphia. Much credit is due to the untiring efforts of Mr. George W. Lutz, Chairman of the Membership Committee, who was particularly active in meeting the various men's groups in the churches. The Association meets twice a year, and sometimes arranges special services in the various churches. Its object is to co-operate with the congregations, as well as with the board and with those who are engaged in the inner work of the institution; to create greater interest in the Home; and to put its financial support upon a systematic

and business basis. They recognize the progress of the past in accomplishment and growth, and that the institution has a sure place in the hearts of those who know it. But they also recognize the possibility of more discipline, more vocational training, better morale, a better system of keeping records, and a more intelligent and wide-awake interest on the part of the men. Their achievements have more than justified their organization. Each one of the officers seeks to interest himself in some special department of the Home's needs. In 1919 they reported that they had paid into the treasury of the Home $500; that they had furnished about $750 annually for two years to secure a Secretary for Mrs. Eisenhardt; that they had an electric fund of several hundred dollars, with which they intended to install electricity in order to avoid a dangerous fire hazard; and that, through the efforts especially of Mr. Harvey R. Kiefaber, they had a roll of honor of 11 butchers and grocers and 57 bakers, who were regularly contributing meat, groceries, provisions, and bread to the Home. But their crowning achievement was the conducting of the $60,000 anniversary campaign, in which they "went over the top," proving that men can do things when they will, with divine help and guidance, and that the Church has an open heart for the cause of the poor. Mr. J. C. Steinbach represents the Association in the Board of Trustees. The dues of an annual membership are $1.00; a life membership, $50.00; and a contributing membership, $1.00 and upward.

Such has been the progress of sixty years. These are the agencies of the Church that have been instrumental, under God, in bringing the institution into its present state of efficiency. In spite of difficulties and discouragements it has steadily progressed, with the result that we have today an institution of which the Church may be proud in its outward appearance, its general management, and in the character of its work.

CHAPTER V

THE HOME OF THE PRESENT DAY

IT WAS on December 9, 1918, that the Laymen's Co-operative Association asked permission of the Board of Trustees to undertake the campaign to raise $60,000 for the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary. This celebration is the historian's goal. Having passed this goal, we realize that we are dealing with the present day and with conditions as we now find them.

To meet the new conditions into which the institution had come the charter was amended—for the third time since its incorporation. On April 30, 1917, the decree was issued by the courts of Philadelphia incorporating into the charter the changes which the Trustees had adopted on May 8, 1911, and especially on February 12, 1917. The latter change provided that there should be twelve instead of nine Trustees, consisting of eight laymen and four ministers, to serve for a period of three years, selected as follows:

Seven are elected by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania.

Three are elected by the Board of Lady Visitors.

One is nominated by the Young People's Auxiliary, and elected by the Board of Trustees.

One is nominated by the Laymen's Co-operative Association, and elected also by the Board.

The financial condition of the Home is good, due in large measure to the success of the anniversary

campaign. For reasons that have already been explained, the treasurer can furnish reports only from 1896. From that year up to 1919 the bequests amounted to $328,114.35; the receipts, $461,184.77; and the expenses, $593,555.54. A large part of the bequest funds has gone into the buildings and property. In 1919 the bequests amounted to $18,773.24; the receipts, $35,361.91; the expenses, $48,786.39. The expenses exceed the receipts. In 1917 there was a deficit in the general treasury of about $10,000. The institution has been struggling with a deficit for years. Hence the need of continued liberality on the part of the Church; and, as the work expands, an increased liberality to keep pace with such expansion and to enable those charged with its responsibility to meet all demands required. The treasurer submits an interesting table of the valuation of the entire property as appraised by Mr. A. Raymond Raff, a builder of Philadelphia, and a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Ogontz, Pennsylvania:

FINANCES

Original Purchase of 1859	$22,500.00
Asylum	46,661.00
Administration Building (central house)	39,300.00
Boys' Dormitory	42,770.00
Girls' Dormitory	34,275.00
The Stable	1,500.00
Lot to the North	20,000.00
Lot to the South	12,000.00
Lot and House of the Infant Memorial	20,000.00
Junior House and Lot	16,000.00
Total	$255,006.00
To this must be added the Tryon Annex	$30,000.00

This makes a splendid record. The seed has grown to be a mighty oak. It began sixty years ago with one dollar and the use of a little rented house. There is now a property value of nearly $300,000. The grounds have become a rallying center for the Church. This is evident on the annual Donation Day, the Luther League Rally of the Philadelphia congregations, the Mission Festival of the German Conference, the rally of the Sunday-school workers of the Mt. Airy Summer School, and on various other festive occasions.

SYNOD'S HELP

The Home is an institution of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania. The support comes almost wholly out of its congregations. In recent years it has asked each one of its congregations to take up an annual collection for the benefit of the Home. This is in addition to the donations and individual contributions that may be made. It encourages its people to endow the institution with bequests and donations of individuals, of societies, of Sunday-schools, and of congregations, and to help provide for the material, social, and spiritual needs of the institution. Its workers "visit and inspect the institution, see its workings, and learn its practical needs; understand the methods and help to furnish the means." It stood behind the sixtieth anniversary campaign and gave it all due encouragement.

The "Advocate" is an important factor in the success of the Home at the present time. It is published monthly by the Board of Trustees, and is a means of

communication between the Home and its friends and supporters. It is freely distributed among the congregations; and its purpose is to awaken interest and stimulate benevolence so as to prevent a deficit in the treasury. It contains news of the doings of the Board, the Lady Visitors, the superintendent, and the inmates; and it also publishes the acknowledgment of receipts of the previous month. The first issue appeared in April, 1914. The suggestion was made by Mrs. Gomer C. Rees, one of the Lady Visitors, representing Christ Church, Chestnut Hill. The publishers are Berger Brothers, of Philadelphia. Besides the monthly "Advocate," the Board publishes the regular annual report, which is for distribution among the ministers and workers of the congregations. It is gotten up in very attractive style, with many interesting cuts, and presents the news of the Home from every angle of observation and the various agencies at work in the interest of the institution.

ORPHANS' HOME "ADVOCATE"

Mr. J. C. Steinbach, the representative of the Laymen's Co-operative Association, 1918–1921, on the Board of Trustees, devoted considerable time to the investigation of the inner conditions of the Home and of the records that are kept. We must keep in mind that the sixtieth anniversary celebration of May 4, 1919, is the limit of the statistics of this history, unless otherwise mentioned. The total number of orphans cared for

PRESENT STATUS

from the beginning amounts to 1206, and of the aged, 321. The enrolment of April 1, 1919, was: boys, 99; girls 79; aged and infirm, 60 (of which number eight were in the Tryon Annex); employees, 24; superintendent 1—making a complete family of 263 souls.

Because the expenditures for a number of years have exceeded the receipts, the Board has found it necessary to make a nominal charge for half-orphans. It asks eight dollars a month in such cases, where the surviving parent is in condition to make the payment; otherwise it is adjusted to meet the situation. The Home remains in the fullest sense a charitable institution; while those who are financially able will feel it a privilege to provide in some measure for those depending upon them.

In 1909 there was a flourishing society of the "Graduates of the Home." Its original object was good—"to foster an interest in the Home and to assist in promoting its welfare." It has ceased to exist in later years, one reason doubtless being that when the young people leave the Home, they do not wish to be in a class by themselves, but desire to mingle with the rest of the people in church and Sunday-school, especially in the affairs of the Home, the festive occasions, and on Donation Day.

The Asylum continues to be a haven of rest for the aged, who are dependent upon the charity of the Church. It has been necessary to increase the entrance fee to $500 and to charge five dollars per week for those who leave before the probation period of six months has

Home for Infants

expired. Men and women are received at the age of sixty or over; and on being admitted, they transfer to the institution all their financial assets, real and personal.

HOME-FINDING

The question has been much discussed, whether children can be properly reared in institutional life, and whether the best service cannot be rendered by the Church in finding suitable private homes for those who are dependent upon charity. The theory is a splendid one; but the practical difficulty is to find suitable homes—homes in which the ideals of training and of religion are such as can be instituted in one Home, established and maintained by the Church, and conducted along the lines of the Church's ideals. The Orphans' Home Board approved of the general principle, but experienced the difficulty mentioned above. The result was the adoption of the following resolutions, which were submitted to the Ministerium of Pennsylvania in its annual convention, June 6, 1919:

"1. That the placing of dependent children in private homes should in the future be done through the committee of Synod charged with that work.

"2. That, the ultimate object of home finding being to secure the regular adoption of a dependent child by a good Christian family, legal reasons suggest that only full orphans, foundlings, illegitimate children, and such as are separated from the parents by order of the court, should come under such consideration.

"3. That where application for such a child or children is made to us, the written consent of the applicant

to such possible placing be obtained at the time of signing of the indenture, and then, that the case be reported to the Home Finding Committee of the Synod.

"4. That, under our present charter, etc., we do not consider it feasible to open our doors for the temporary care of such children, but would recommend to your consideration the plan adopted by such societies of our Church in the West and others engaged in similar work, viz., to board such children temporarily at a fixed sum per day or week in any respectable family that can be found near at hand, until a permanent home for the child is found by the Society or Committee."

For the dear old people there is only one prospect. Of course, the object is to provide for them a good home, in the winter of their lives, where they may be at peace,—with God, with their associates, and with themselves,—and after that—God rest their souls!

AFTER THE HOME—WHAT?

The Home has its own burial lots, one at St. Michael's cemetery in Germantown; the other, for twenty graves, at Hillside Cemetery, through the generosity of the members of Zion's Church.

But the question is often seriously asked as to the future of the orphans—Where are they? What are they doing in the world and in the Church, after all the Church's special care of them, in body, mind, and spirit? It makes the Church thoughtful and lays a solemn emphasis upon the work. We have seen that some of the boys have gone into the holy ministry. "Others have stepped into Church work; and many of our girls have

become useful and helpful Church members." Penning these lines, the writer has in mind two young men who have given credit to their training in youth at our institution: the one was prominently identified with the planting and building up of the Church of the Redeemer, Falls of Schuylkill, Philadelphia, and served for a number of years on its Church Council and as superintendent of its Sunday-school. The other, similarly identified with the Church of the Advocate, Germantown, pointed with pride to the beautiful pulpit in his church, the workmanship of his own hands. *God bless them every one*, and make them to be numbered with His children in His work, the establishment of His Kingdom on earth!

Thus we see that the Home has grown to become a well-established institution of the Church. It has the full confidence and support of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania. It is maintained by the liberality of the members of the synodical congregations. The internal management, under the superintendent's direction (until recently Mrs. Eisenhardt), has been thorough, conscientious, and efficient. The trustees are keenly alive to a proper sense of their responsibilities. The associations of the Young People's Auxiliary and of the Laymen are energetic in their interest. The Lady Visitors, numbering in 1919 142 members, representing 68 congregations, are more active than ever. With such support and under the divine blessing the Home is destined to render great service for the Church, which shall

redound to the glory of God, and which shall bring untold blessings unto many of the poor and destitute who are dependent upon the kindness of God, as He displays His favor through the agency of the Church.

The Home must provide for the material and physical needs of the dependents. They are immediately felt, and they need immediate attention. But as in all inner mission work the Church has in mind its spiritual mission, so the spiritual care of the children and of the aged is of pre-eminent significance to the Church. Ever since the year 1910 this responsibility has been borne by the chaplain. We will allow him to tell the story of his office:

BY THE REV. H. D. E. SIEBOTT

"After the death of Pastor Eisenhardt the spiritual work which he had performed so devotedly and efficiently in the capacity of an ordained minister of the Gospel, as preacher and 'Seelsorger' among the inmates of the Home, had been well taken care of by the clerical members of the Board. Yet it was deemed necessary to give the Church further assurance that this important part of the work was not neglected. In the year 1910, therefore, it was decided to create the office of Chaplain for the institution. The chairman of the Spiritual Committee of the board, the Rev. H. D. E. Siebott, was proposed as the first incumbent and unanimously elected. He accepted the appointment, although pastor of a large city congregation, and has served in this capacity ever since, visiting the institution once or twice every week;

attending to the sick; administering the sacraments; conducting funerals, catechetical instruction, and confirmation; and, in consultation with the superintendent, arranging for the regular Sunday services. For, besides the daily morning and evening worship, at which the inmates of the orphanage and the Home for the Aged assembled separately in the respective buildings, there is a full church service every Lord's Day in the chapel of the institution, conducted according to the order of the Church Book, alternately in the English and German languages. On this occasion all the inmates from the various buildings assemble together. It is an impressive sight that greets the preacher as he enters the well-filled chapel at these services; and he is sure not only of a large but also of an attentive audience. Sunday-school exercises are conducted by the superintendent and assistants, with those of the children who attend the public schools during the week. After a thorough course of instruction by the chaplain during the preceding months the orphan children who have reached the proper age are received into the communicant membership of the congregation of the institution by the solemn rite of confirmation. This service, which generally takes place on Ascension Day, is an unusually impressive one, when these young persons, some of whom have spent ten or more years in the Home, and represent, as it were, the finished product of the institution's work, healthy and strong in body, soul, and spirit, and well equipped for life's work and conflict, are presented

before the altar. No less impressive, however, and equally illustrating the blessed results of the institution's work, is an oft-recurring scene in the little rooms of the Home for the Aged, when, in the silence of the night perhaps, at the bedside of one who has here found a haven of rest and peace in the evening of life, the chaplain, upon his knees in prayer, helps a departing soul fight the last battle."

"Although the immediate reason for the admission of a person into our Home in nearly all cases is the need of assistance and care in bodily helplessness and distress, and although provision for the bodily welfare of our dependents, old and young, occupies so much of our time, thought, and anxiety, yet in this work, as in all other Inner Mission activity of the Church, the care and cure of souls must be the ultimate and all-important object in view. The chapel, therefore, must always have a prominent place in our institution, along with the school-room and the kitchen."

The historian wishes to add that the Church must feel grateful for the manifestation of such a spirit in this important work, a spirit which lays the chief stress upon godliness, which has "promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."

May the blessing of the Almighty rest upon the work and upon all the workers!

CHAPTER VI

THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY

THE year 1919 marked the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the Home, and the Board of Trustees determined to have a real celebration, in which "heart and hands and voices" should have a share. They made elaborate plans, in which they had the sympathy and fullest co-operation of all the agencies for the support of the Home.

The preceding year had witnessed the devastation of war and the resultant strained conditions of labor and living, and, as if this were not enough, the dreadful epidemic and the sore trials felt everywhere throughout the land ensued. Nor did the Home escape, as we have already described in this history. And the results were felt even in the beginning of 1919, so that when Anniversary Day came, Sunday, May 4th, the orphans were unable to attend the celebration, which was appropriately held in Zion's Church on Franklin Square—Rev. F. O. Evers, Pastor.

The anniversary festival service was held in the morning, when Pastor Evers preached in German from the text, John 10 : 14: "I am the Good Shepherd," and the Rev. G. W. Sandt, D.D., editor of "The Lutheran," preached in English from the text, Matthew 25 : 40: "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I

say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." The German sermon was to have been preached by the Rev. G. C. Berkemeier, D.D., Director of the Wartburg Orphans' Home, Mount Vernon, New York, but serious illness prevented his presence. In the afternoon the orphans' celebration took place, and an elaborate program had been prepared, but because of the epidemic at the Home, the orphans could not be present. We give the program in full:

THE ORPHANS' CELEBRATION PROGRAM

1. Processional Hymn.....*The Orphans*
2. Hymn.....*Orphans and Congregation*
   "Jesus, still lead on!"
3. Opening Versicles.....*The Orphans*
4. Scripture Lesson
5. Prayer
6. Choir.....*Orphan Choir*
7. Recitation.....*An Orphan*
8. Recitation.....*Kindergarten*
9. Choir.....*Orphan Choir*
10. Catechetical Exercises.....*The Orphans*
11. Hymn.....*The Orphans*
12. Recitation.....*An Orphan*
13. Recitation.....*An Orphan*
14. Hymn.....*The Orphans*
15. Address.....*Rev. J. E. Nidecker, D.D., President of the Board*
16. Choir.....*Orphan Choir*
17. Address.....*Mr. Oscar C. Schmidt, Pres., Laymen's Co-operative Assoc.*
18. Address.....*Mrs. G. C. Eisenhardt, Superintendent*
19. Hymn.....*Orphans and Congregation*
    "Now thank we all our God"
20. Remarks by Rev. F. O. Evers
21. Collection for the Orphans' Home and Asylum.
22. The Lord's Prayer and Benediction.

JUNIOR HOME FOR BOYS

Everything was done to make the anniversary service worthy of the occasion, in spite of the enforced absence of the children. Dr. Nidecker had composed a beautiful and appropriate poem, which was read by Pastor Evers and appeared on the program. He has kindly translated for us his historical address, which will be of interest to all the friends of the Home.

Dr. Nidecker's Anniversary Address

"Through the grace of God our institution for the fatherless and motherless at Germantown has completed its sixth decade. To-day we are assembled in this House of Worship to praise Him with joyful hearts, obeying the Psalmist's summons: 'O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good!' Our joy is somewhat lessened. The fact that our young friends from Germantown, by order of the Board of Health, are confined to the Home, is indeed a sad disappointment to us, who had expected to see their smiling faces once more and to listen to their songs and recitations. But, on the other hand, let us not forget that to them who for weeks had looked forward to this Jubilee celebration and who had been engaged in making careful preparations the disappointment cannot be less painful. We will love them the more, and pray that the Father in Heaven may graciously spare them in this time of visitation.

"The best and surest way to overcome any disappointment is to turn the mind back and recall the good things with which we have been blessed in the past. This I

propose to do now. In the limited space of an address it cannot be my task to give you an historical review covering a period of sixty years. A full and explicit history of our institution is now in preparation. I may be allowed to restrict my remarks to the time during which I was connected with the institution, and through which I became familiar with its inner life. This period, covering the second half of the sixty years, may rightly be called the time of development. It stands before our eyes as a visible testimony and monument of the grace of God.

"When I became a member of the Board of Trustees, the institution was in most trying circumstances. The question, Whence should we have so much bread as to satisfy so great a multitude, about seventy orphans and thirty aged persons, had become a burning question; yea, it seemed as if the house of charity might be compelled to close its doors. I doubt if ever the prayer was more fervently uttered,

> " 'Thine the work, Lord Jesus,
> The work not built on sand,
> And since the work is Thine, O Lord,
> Naught can the work withstand,'

than in those days of anguish and distress, when the trustees prayed in the vestryroom of this sanctuary, clinging to God, with the reassuring words of the pious poet:

" 'Yes, go still on
Trusting in God for aye,
So you will ever see
God's light and way.
What you have sure believed,
That shall you see;
How you have sure believed,
So shall it be!'

"Though nearly thirty years have elapsed since then, how vividly I remember the worthy president of the board, Mr. Henry Lehman, standing before his discouraged colleagues, and with unceasing confidence in God's wonderful ways, inspiring them to renewed zeal and activity. For several years this steadfast friend of the orphans bore also the burden of the treasurership, in order to see us safely through the embarrassing situation; and the Board of Lady Visitors, under the leadership of Mrs. E. S. Pleibel (connected with our charitable work since 1873), faithfully and successfully stood by his side, in the endeavor to pilot the ship through the threatening perils. Only last summer, after forty-five years of active service, advanced age compelled Mrs. Pleibel to abandon the work so dear to her. The words of the poet have been found to be true: 'What you have sure believed, that shall you see; How you have sure believed, so shall it be.' The Spirit of God moved the Lutheran hearts far and near, awakening in them a fresh conception of their Christian duty, filling them with new love toward God's orphaned children. The friends who to-day look upon our grounds, buildings,

and inmates will scarcely realize that we once labored under such trying conditions. The comparatively small flock of 1890 has been increased three-fold, and they all have found shelter; for whenever we were in need of further accommodations and necessary equipment, we found hearts and hands willing to come to our aid. Visibly God's blessing rested upon us, so that, with the wise supervision of our faithful superintendent and her helpers the institution enjoyed, outwardly as well as inwardly, a wholesome prosperity, the inmates lacking neither bodily nor spiritual care.

"But now the income of our yearly Donation Day (our joyful family gathering for the Lutherans of Philadelphia and vicinity) has proved to be entirely insufficient to cover the current expenses of the institution. It was, therefore, an imperative necessity to seek new forces and to open new resources if the progress of the institution should not be doomed to come to a standstill. Thanks be to God, relief was provided. In the first place, the Board of Lady Visitors was enlarged so that it now numbers over one hundred members, and represents more than fifty English and German congregations. The next move was the organization of the Young People's Auxiliary, comprising the younger members of our Church, who make their special object the maintenance of the Infant Home. Many years ago President Lehman one morning surprised the board with the communication that, upon entering his office on Arch Street, he had found an orphaned baby on his

writing desk. Though at the time we were scarcely prepared for such a guest, the babe was admitted, and at present there are more than thirty of these 'least ones of our Lord' under our care in the well-equipped Infant Home. Most powerful assistance has been given by the youngest organization, the Laymen's Co-operative Association. In its midst originated the plan to ask all our congregations for a jubilee offering, amounting, if possible, to $60,000, or $1000 for each past year. To these two societies, together with the Advisory Board, our representatives in the respective conferences, we are largely indebted for the widening of our circle of influence and the increase of the contributions. However, we will not forget our modest monthly messenger, which, as a real 'Advocate,' goes out far and wide suing for the support of our charitable work.

" 'What you have sure believed, that shall you see; How you have sure believed, so shall it be.' What in the past we were blessed to see that we experience today, and in this we have the principal reason for the celebration of this jubilee. The fundamental law of the Kingdom of God upon earth is Love, which is nothing else than an emanation of God's eternal love. Since the first day of creation until this hour the message, 'God is Love,' has sounded through the world; and every day of our life is a donation day of our loving Father in Heaven. The most radiant ray of the divine love the world has seen was the sending of the Only-begotten Son, whose entire life in word and deed reflected that

wonderful heavenly love. As it was the first aim of His love unto death to bring human hearts to the Father, so it was also destined to right and to consecrate the human relations between man and wife, parents and children, man and man. Of these relations the Lord's greatest Apostle says: 'And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.' He also says, 'Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.'

"Among the many inscriptions which in these days adorn the City of Brotherly Love, one reads thus: 'We are not giving, but lending.' We understand its meaning and purpose; it is human. In the daily papers, such a loan is proclaimed the most secure investment in the world; that sounds human also. Now, from olden times, there stands an inscription before the human race which reads: 'He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.' (Prov. 19 : 17.) This inscription is godly. It proclaims a fundamental law of the Kingdom of God, which not only has never been revoked or cancelled, but, on the contrary, in the course of the ages has found new accentuation and interpretation, teaching us that widows and orphans, the destitute aged and babes, rank among those recommended to our benevolence. Is such an investment secure? Certainly; for the principal is in His hands who says; 'The silver is mine, and the gold is mine.' The speaker is the Lord of hosts. Will such a loan bear interest? He that is wise of the

Old Testament says: 'He will pay him again'; and He that is holy and true of the New Testament promises: 'Ye shall receive an hundred-fold.' One hundred per cent! Will that suffice you?

"Friends, let us then not end this day of joy without having asked the question: How large, or how little, is my investment with the Lord of Hosts? Could and should it not be increased? I am sure if we examine ourselves earnestly and before God, our Orphans' Home will never lack holy love, praying hearts, and joyful offerings. The *deficit* will have an end, and we will lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven."

The Campaign Fund

This feature of the celebration was not prompted by mere sentiment. It was the expression of a necessity. They wanted a thank-offering; but they needed money with which to pay for the purchase of the Junior House, in which the younger children, between the ages of four and seven years, were being cared for; they needed a dining hall for the accommodation of the entire family; they needed electric wiring for the Asylum; they needed a large heating-plant; they needed the improvement of the grounds; they needed to provide for the increased cost of maintenance; and they needed to wipe out the deficit. No wonder the laymen got behind the campaign and determined to make it successful. And so successful was it that on June 30, 1919, the treasurer reported $61,238.08 in cash, with more to follow, as some of the

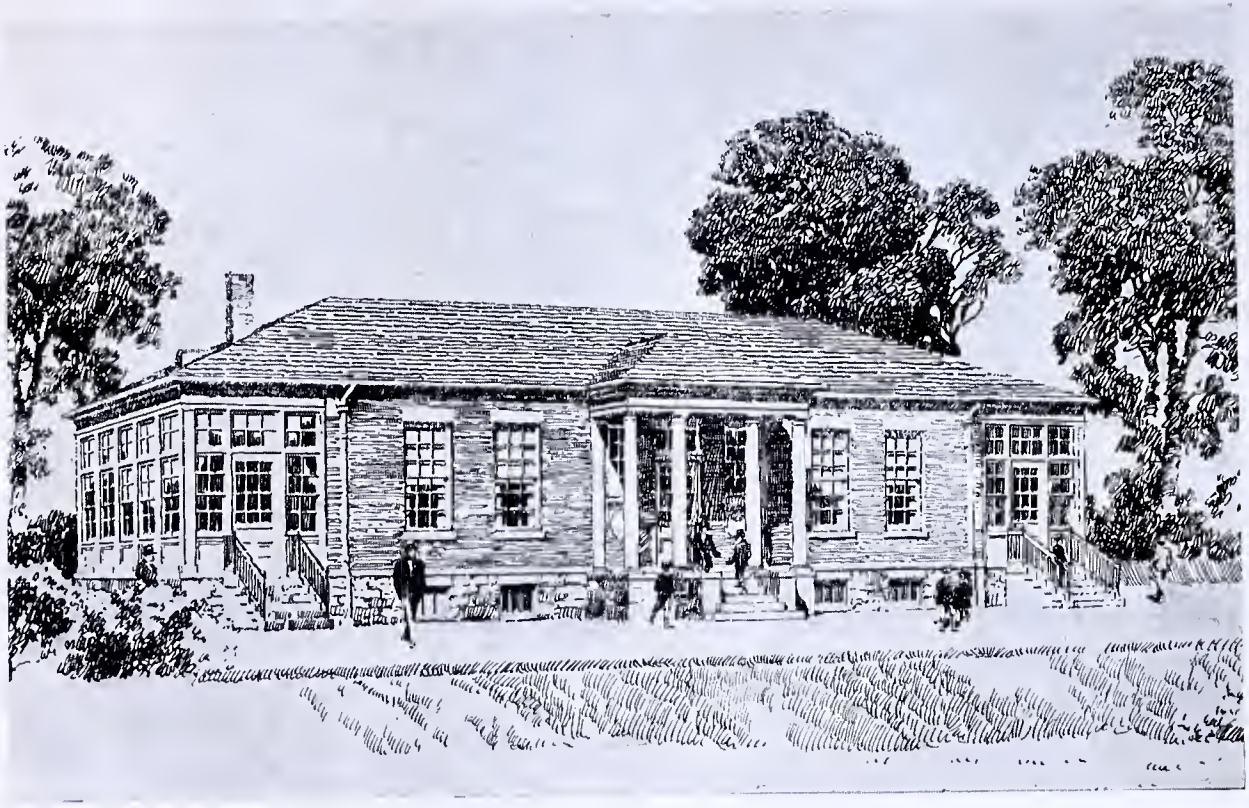
congregations had not yet reported. Of this amount, $10,000 was paid on the Junior House, and the deficit of May—of several thousand dollars—was wiped out. The total paid out of the Anniversary Fund was $13,-933.82; and there was still due on the bank, $3000. The report of July 7, 1919, was as follows:

Donation Day	$31,966.45
At Witherspoon Building	20,331.06
At Witherspoon Building	4,676.67
Treasurer of Home	3,952.27
Other Sources	3,419.27
Total Anniversary Fund	$64,345.72

The expenses of the campaign were so small as to be almost a negligible quantity. The people gave, and the leaders served—all apparently with one object, to realize all that was possible—to bring instant relief, and to provide for the necessities of the ever-expanding work. We are indebted to the Rev. Mr. Meck, the Executive Secretary, for the following details of the campaign:

"The Lutheran Orphans' Home Campaign

"At the suggestion of the Rev. H. A. Weller, D.D., the president of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, to make a 'drive in the congregations of Philadelphia and vicinity' in behalf of the Orphans' Home at Germantown, and with the approval of the Rev. F. H. Knubel, D.D., LL.D., the president of the United Lutheran Church in America, Mr. Oscar C. Schmidt, the president of the Laymen's Co-operative Association, and a



KIEFABER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

member of the Board of Trustees, labored indefatigably to realize an Anniversary Fund as a fitting celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Home. The services of the Rev. O. H. Pannkoke, of the Lutheran Bureau of New York City, and of the Rev. John Irwin Meck, pastor of the Prince of Peace Church of Philadelphia, were secured. Rev. Mr. Pannkoke and Mr. Schmidt prepared the literature and planned the campaign; and Rev. Mr. Meck was instructed to execute the plan.

"Through the kindness of the Rev. I. Chantry Hoffman, D.D., the Eastern District Superintendent of Missions and Church Extension of the United Lutheran Church, the offices at 805 Witherspoon Building in Philadelphia were opened freely to the Committee as the campaign headquarters. The Executive Committee consisted of Mr. Oscar C. Schmidt, president; Mr. Wm. P. M. Braun, treasurer; and Messrs. Peter Woll, Jr., Harvey Kiefaber, Christian Pflaum, Jr., and Burton Simon. Mrs. H. G. Schaetzle, Miss Kathryn Addams, Miss E. Mawson, and Mrs. Oscar C. Schmidt assisted in the clerical work. Mr. Edward C. Koenig gave invaluable aid. Dr. Hoffman further helped the campaign by presenting the cause in Bethlehem, Pottstown, and Lebanon.

"The Organization.—The plan of organization was simple and effective. The entire field, covering the State of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and part of Delaware, was divided into districts. District managers were appointed and instructed to carry out the campaign

in every detail in their respective districts. The district chairmen, who gave splendid assistance, were:

"*In the Allentown Conference.*—The Rev. H. C. Kline, Conference Representative; Messrs. Luther S. Hoffman, W. W. Speck, H. D. Saylor, John Stiles, and John Sefing.

"*In the Lancaster Conference.*—The Rev. H. N. Fegley, Conference Representative; Messrs. L. D. Harpel, Wallace R. Knerr, and Aaron Gilbert.

"*In the Norristown Conference.*—The Rev. H. S. Paules, Conference Representative; Mr. M. L. March.

"*In the Pottsville Conference.*—The Rev. I. H. Kern, S.T.D., Conference Representative; Mr. D. W. Miller.

"*In the Wilkes-Barre Conference.*—The Rev. J. D. C. Witke, Conference Representative; Rev. W. H. C. Lauer, Lehighton District; Messrs. E. L. Orwig, Charles Britton, W. H. D. Moyer, D. M. Reitz, Ira E. Seidel, Esq., Geo. Enzian, and Prof. T. H. Serfass. Rev. F. T. Esterly, Hazleton District. Assistants: Messrs. H. J. Swettman and Rudolph Kellner. Rev. Jas. D. C. Witke, Wilkes-Barre District. Assistants: Messrs. W. H. Frey, Geo. Eisle, Peter Huester, Henry Kehrli, Robert D. Raeder, Conrad Appel, and Louis Keilholz.

"*In the Danville Conference.*—Rev. E. L. Leisey, Conference Representative; Mr. C. P. Ulrich.

"The Philadelphia Organization.—The city of Philadelphia, together with Camden, N. J., and several of the suburbs, was subdivided into fourteen districts,

with the following men as district chairmen: Mr. Clarence Laubach, Mr. Chas. Wagner, Dr. G. F. Hirzel, Mr. Walter K. Hoyer, Mr. Charles Bieber, Mr. Charles A. Thress, Mr. George W. Lutz, Mr. J. Harry Stephan, Mr. F. C. Hassold, Mr. J. C. Steinbach, Mr. Walter C. Yoder, Mr. Raymond G. Ellis, Mr. J. Walter Lauer, Mr. Henry Voigt, Mr. John Burkhardt, and Mr. Christian Pflaum.

"The three organizations of the Home, the Laymen's Co-operative Association, the Board of Lady Visitors, and the Young People's Auxiliary, were the base of a unique army of workers. Every congregation in the city was represented, and an intense co-operation and healthy competition were aroused. Enthusiasm was evident from the very beginning of the campaign. Success was in the air. Determination not only to reach the goal, but to go away 'over the top,' animated each worker. No wonder this army was victorious.

"THE LITERATURE.—The literature was an important factor in the campaign. It will continue to be a strong educational force, bringing the Home and its needs to the mind and hearts of our people for all time. Some of the literature was distributed generally; other booklets were used in the actual canvass. The Worker's Handbook, two illustrated bulletins, three illustrated colored folders, and a very attractive booklet of appeal were used effectively. A series of four large posters were displayed in all the churches. Circular letters were released periodically from the central office, and did much

to stimulate interest. A special folder was printed in German for use in the German congregations.

"IMPORTANT STEPS.—April 30—Coffee Social at the Home. Address by Rev. J. I. Meck.

"May 4—Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration in Zion Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, the Rev. F. O. Evers, Pastor. Sermon by the Rev. F. O. Evers, and addresses by the Rev. Dr. Sandt, Rev. Dr. Nidecker, and Mr. Oscar Schmidt.

"May 7—Dinner given by an interested layman to sixty guests at the Poor Richard Club. All the district chairmen and executive committees of the three organizations were present. Representatives from all the important sections of the Ministerium. Addresses by the Rev. Drs. Weller, Hoffman, Rev. O. H. Pannkoke, and Mr. John Sefing. Mr. Oscar Schmidt presided.

"May 10—The Rally Meeting of the Young People's Auxiliary at the Church of the Apostles, the Rev. F. S. Kuntz, Pastor. Addresses by Rev. O. H. Pannkoke and Mrs. Adolph Woll.

"May 12—Meeting of the District Chairmen at 805 Witherspoon Building. Plans for Philadelphia Campaign finally adopted.

"May 13—Rally Meeting of the Board of Lady Visitors in Zion Lutheran Church. Address by Rev. O. H. Pannkoke.

"May 19—Final Meeting of the District Chairmen of Philadelphia at the Arcadia Cafe.

"June 1—Opening of campaign. Special Services in the churches.

"June 2—Mass Meeting in St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, the Rev. Dr. Schindel, Pastor. The three organizations of the Home, district chairmen, workers, team captains, in attendance. Addresses by the Rev. J. Henry Harms, D.D., Rev. F. O. Evers, Rev. J. I. Meck, and Mr. Oscar C. Schmidt.

"June 12—Donation Day at the Home. Clear skies bring record crowds. Clock on the grounds records the gradual approach to the goal of the campaign. Treasurer Mr. Braun and assistants literally swamped with subscriptions for the Anniversary Fund. Every organization and congregational society tremendously active. The clock finally records the goal realized."

Every effort was put forth to make Donation Day the great popular climax of the campaign. There was an intensity which characterized everything in connection with the day—the anticipation, the preparations, and the exercises. The goal was reached and there was great rejoicing.

One thing remained. The sixty years of toil and sacrifice and steady progress had closed gloriously. But the triumph was due to the kind Father in Heaven. It was His blessing, His loving favor, that gave success; and His people wanted the opportunity to sing, "Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow." The following, which was printed and distributed as a circular, will exhibit this most important part of the program:

"THANKSGIVING SERVICE.—To commemorate the signal success of the $60,000 drive, the Laymen's Co-operative Association, Board of Lady Visitors, and Young People's Auxiliary have arranged a Thanksgiving Service, to be held on Thursday Evening, October 23, 1919, in Holy Communion Church, 21st and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Rev. Dr. J. H. Harms, Pastor. There will be prominent speakers and good music. The presentation of banners will be an interesting number on the program. Now that we have gone over the top in the drive, let us not forget to return to the Lord who has helped us, and give thanks unto him."

"Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mother's arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours to-day.

"All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven:
The One Eternal God
Whom earth and Heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore."

APPENDIX

Rev. T. W. Kretschmann, Ph D

LIST OF NAMES ON BRONZE TABLET

First Column	Second Column
C. Harry Eimerbrink	Dr. John Hedges
Harry J. Schwehm	Alice A. Heppe
Wm. E. Myers	Emil Veit
Harvey R. Kiefaber	W. H. Berlinger
Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Kiefaber	Dr. H. M. Freas
Mrs. John G. Schmidt	Mrs. M. Bolton
H. Kiefaber, Friend	James M. Mohr
Emma Hein	Mrs. Edwin Stulb
W. F. Monroe	David H. Simon
Amelia Riddle	Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Simon
Caroline Artman	Mr. Fred Boye
Mrs. Wm. Tonner	Mr. MacNeill
Bertha Vollmer	Mr. Schindel
J. D. MacIlhenny	Amelia Brill-Riddle
Jacob L. Read	Julius Blamberg
Mrs. Wm. Hause	Valentine Franz
Wm. Lindeman	Theo. Finkenauer
Daniel Martin	Chas. Peters
Mrs. Norton and Mrs. Jameson	Mrs. M. Nagel
Frederick Riehle	Miss M. and A. Schramm
Cornelia Schiedt	Chas. H. Braun
J. Henry Schiedt	H. D. Justi
John Willing	Mr. and Mrs. Chris. Pflaum
D. W. Dietrich	H. C. Rumpp
Mr. and Mrs. W. Heib	Chas. W. Leupold
Oscar C. Schmidt	A. Hartung
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Tompson	Edmund Funck
Dr. Henry Groff	Mr. and Mrs. Leamy
Mr. and Mrs. W. P. M. Braun	Wm. H. Heidenuch
Anna M. Woll	Jacob Kilnel
Peter Woll, Jr.	Wm. Freihofer
W. G. Berlinger	Charles Freihofer
Mrs. J. C. Dickel	Mrs. Charles Freihofer
Peter P. Hagan	Daniel Luke
Henry Linde	Lizzie B. Nace
Chas. E. Schmidt	John Schnabel
E. Clarence Miller	Mrs. C. A. Ernst
Alice H. Mertz	Harry J. Knoll
Geo. W. Shisler	Mrs. J. Schnable
	Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Marlor

THIRD COLUMN

Annie Fradinger
Christian Theurer
Mary E. Theurer
By Mary E. Theurer
Charlotte Chorley
Franz H. Raupp
Dr. Henry A. Grimm
Mrs. Glueck
Wilhelmina Feil
Christopher Wermuth
Susan L. Garrett
Sarah H. Butcher
Alexander Fogel
William H. Birely
Kate Logue
John Spielman
Louis Foerster
Anna Schemm Stelle
Mary Wensel
Reuben M. Krout
Mary A. Brubaker
Caroline Salber
Martin Hetzel—B. Fund
J. C. Longsdorf
Sophie Schaefer
Christiana Bach
Henrietta A. Mundel
Henry Schaefer
David Vetter
Catherine R. Clymer
Marie Meyer
Lydia Ann Ort
Helena S. Joelson
Fred Strassenmeyer
Mary S. Schultz
William P. Baltz
Elizabeth L. Clark
Christine Gipser

FOURTH COLUMN

Anna E. Eberle
Thomas M. Gable
Emma L. Pleibel
Katherine Blum
Leanna Schneck
Charles E. Schling
Phillipina Hoffman
John H. Seigler, known as J. H. and Eliza Seigler Fund
Elizabeth Fertner
Elizabeth Sievers
Mr. Stein
Rev. Hugo Grahn, D.D.
John H. Guyer
Jacob Danehower
Geo. W. Endriss
Anna M. Goldback
John Zoells, Jr.
Mary Ellen Hausman
Daubert Estate
Charles T. Trumbauer
William R. Wieditz
Paul Pfeiffer
Elizabeth V. Uhrich
Sabina C. Ream
Louise Steitz in memory of her Mother Catherine Seilhamer and Sister Elizabeth Steitz
Amelia Fisher
Gustavus A. Schwarz
Rev. Theodore E. Schmauk, D.D., LL.D., in memory of Wilhelmina Schmauk
George Geckler
Pauline Schormer
Ernestine L. S. Schaefer

LIST OF NAMES ON MARBLE TABLET

First Column	Second Column
Judith Graff	Isabella D. King
George W. Grove	Mary A. Warner
Christina Schweigert	Mary Bockius
Elizabeth R. Fischer	Rev. C. J. Heyer
Jesse George	Lydia Benner
Rachel Stewart	Dorothy Hawk
Benj. D. Barton	Catherine J. Engel
Catharine Nixon	Elizabeth Hoffner
Chas. M. Eckert	Barbara Armbruster
James Monroe	Susannah Benninger
Anna Idell	George Cleverstine
Peter Seeger	Kate Heim
Lewis D. Beck	Louis Sticfel
George W. Tryon	Eliza Yost
Abraham Scheidt	Charles F. Schoening
Rebecca Jung Kurth	A. F. Dotterer
Catherine Wolf	Catharine Maag
John Messerschmidt	Mr. Stolze, Germany
John E. Fox	Elizabeth Ehrhardt
Mrs. L. Laib	Elizabeth Walter
Elizabeth Schneider	Henry D. Orthwein
John Sefferth	Christina E. Metzger
Glassman Estate	Theresa C. Kinika
J. P. Sanner	Dorothea Poppel
E. J. Deininger	Maria H. Castor

Third Column	Fourth Column
E. T. Eckert	Emily G. Heins
Elizabeth Schaeffer	T. K. Klein
Sarah Raup	Elizabeth F. Bremer
Charles Neff	August F. Brecht
Rev. Dr. W. J. Mann	John M. Klumpp
Dr. Edward Morwitz	Elizabeth Keppler
Mary Raabe	Harriet Hauberger
Mary A. Corson	Frederick Hager
Clara B. Ashmead	Charles Yerger
Jacob Shandein	Caroline Schill
James Gilbert	Phillip Gruner
Catharine Wenz	Elizabeth Kuntz
Lewis Blase	Mary MacCauley
Magdalene Diemer	Caroline F. Rudolph
Christina Hamberger	Caroline Reutlanger
Margaret Luebken	Jacob Gerhab
Lavina Fegely	Mary Baker
J. F. Zwink	Sarah Harwick
Frederick Mayer	Frederick Bronstrup
John Rommel	Kate E. Shupe
Eva Mueller	Sarah Ann Nippes
Barbara Lackner	George Schleicher
Frederick Bixenstein	Rebecca Brown
Fegely Estate	Henry Kreiling
John Walp	Augusta J. Foerderer

Fifth Column	Sixth Column
Margaret Baker	Emelie Schalinsky
Frank Alsfeld	Julia A. Kemerer
John E. Garrett Fund	Anna M. Sterling
Benj. Brown	Chas. F. Wernle
Mary A. Buchmiller	John Kuntz
Hiram Brooke	Margaret Baker
Babetta Schwartz	Henrietta Wolf
George G. Burkle	Weimer G. Sands
Carl Mueller	Margarette Eberle
Henry Lehman	Eliza Felty
John Braun	Bertha Braun
Fred'k Bauer	Emma Kuhlemeier
H. D. Justi	Mrs. J. K. Weaver
Mrs. John L. Bremer	Mrs. M. Bolton
Eliz. R. VanVelthouse	Mrs. Clara Simpers
Margaret F. J. Wallace	Miss Clara Lehman
Dr. John Lewis Bremer	Christopher Wittmaier
John L. Bremer	Mary Prange
John M. Pleis	Mary Lysinger
Ludwig Bremer	Louise Baumann
Gustav Goethert	Maria Allgaier
Martha McNaab	Geo. F. Fox
William McClary	Henry H. Minnich
John D. Lankenau	Amanda C. Kleppinger
Francis E. Huber	Mary C. Wallace

SEVENTH COLUMN

Mary B. Schuenzel
Frederick Bauer
Leonard Zeller
Leonard C. Weber
Hannah Zimmerman
John Heberling
John J. Jarrett
John W. Helb
Mary Adelaide Potts
Louise M. Summer Fund
William Warner, Jr.
Margaretha Reichert
Baltzer Conzel
Mr. and Mrs. F. Strausler
Henrietta Graff
Mary A. Krieg
Christian Krumm
Karl W. Entenmann
Wm. Pabst
Katherine Ashmead
Charles Breneisen
Louis F. Schoffer
Emeline Unruh
Mrs. John G. Schmidt
Mr. Jacob L. Read

EIGHTH COLUMN

Sophie F. Cloos
George Freitag
Theodore Bremer
Mrs. C. V. Wright
Eva M. Lippe
Amelia P. Rumpp
Barbara Ebmeier
Peter A. Schemm
Anna R. Brown
R. Winter
Caroline F. Rumpp
Christian Müller
John G. Schneider
Barbara Schneider
Mrs. W. J. Mann
E. D. Kramer
Geo. R. Neff
Augusta A. Bechtel
Marie M. Baltz
A. A. Bechtel
E. K. Buchmann
F. Berlinger
C. G. Berlinger
Mary Tryon
S. R. Fischer

NINTH COLUMN

P. Killinger
Gottlieb Schiedt
Mary A. Schiedt
Marie L. Wagner
Annie R. Evans
John G. Schmidt, Jr.
Louise Bosse
Albert Schoenhut
Mathilda E. Houser
Rev. J. H. Schmidt
James G. Peel
William Walp
Margaretha K. Engel
John G. Hees
Enos R. Artman
Catharine L. Rommel
Dorothea Ziegler
Mrs. Emma C. Seeger
Anna L. Braun
Barbara Geiter
John J. Kuecherer
Jacob C. Sotter
Emma Koch
Barbara Tresch
Catharine Nusbaum

OUTLINE HISTORY

1852–1858.—Origination of the idea of a Germantown Home with Dr. Passavant.

1858–1859.—Founding of the Home by Mrs. C. W. Schaeffer.

March 12, 1859.—First house rented for the use of the Home.

March 18, 1859.—First orphan received (George Silvers).

October, 1859.—Present site purchased, with five acres of land and a small house on Germantown Avenue.

May 10, 1860.—First inmate of the Asylum (Sister Margaret).

June 4, 1860.—Incorporation of the institution. First charter.

April 29, 1862.—Corner-stone laid of the first building —the old workshop.

February 27, 1863.—First amendment of charter.

April 4, 1863.—Exempted from taxation.

1864–1866.—Lovett Mansion rented—to care for Civil War Orphans.

July 24, 1865.—Corner-stone laid of the Administration Building (Central Building).

April 9, 1872.—Second amendment of charter. Transfer to the Ministerium of Pennsylvania.

July 5, 1872.—By-laws adopted under the amended charter.

June 6, 1879.—Corner-stone laid of the new Asylum for the Aged.

MAY 13, 1880.—Dedication of the new Asylum.

MAY 27, 1881.—First Donation Day.

MAY 9, 1895.—The reconsecration of the renovated Chapel of the Asylum.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1896.—Corner-stone laid of Boys' Hall.

JUNE 4, 1897.—Dedication of Boys' Hall.

1896–1897.—Building of heating plant and laundry.

1902.—Purchase of the Garrett lot to the north and the Leibert lot to the south.

MARCH 24, 1906.—Corner-stone laid of Girls' Hall.

NOVEMBER 15, 1906.—Dedication of the Girls' Hall.

JANUARY 28, 1909.—Dedication of Pipe Organ in Chapel.

JUNE 7, 1913.—Option secured on the additional Leibert property for the Memorial Home for Infants.

APRIL, 1914.—First issue of the "Orphans' Home Advocate."

APRIL 9, 1914.—Gift of Tryon property.

JUNE, 1915.—Synod approves of an Advisory Board of representatives of the conferences.

JUNE 25, 1915.—Organization of the Young People's Auxiliary.

DECEMBER 4, 1915.—Dedication of the Tryon Annex.

DECEMBER 11, 1916.—Board of Trustees decides to purchase five lots at North Wildwood, N. J., for a seashore home.

NOVEMBER 27, 1916.—Organization of the Laymen's Co-operative Association.

APRIL 30, 1917.—Third amendment of charter to provide for enlargement of Board of Trustees.

Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees

FEBRUARY 28, 1919.—Purchase of the Junior House.

MAY 4, 1919.—The sixtieth anniversary.

JUNE 12, 1919.—Donation Day—climax of the $60,000 campaign.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF THE ORPHANS' HOME

1

A pamphlet entitled "Constitution and By-laws of the Orphans' Home and Asylum for the Aged and Infirm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia." Printed by Deacon and Peterson, 1865.

This pamphlet contains no cuts or illustrations. There are four parts: (1) Page of officers and managers; (2) copy of the Constitution or Charter of Incorporation; (3) By-laws; (4) "Address to the Friends of the Orphans' Home," by Miss Sue D. Lehman, the Secretary of the Board of Lady Managers, dated December 1, 1865. The charter known as "The first amended charter," was based upon the original Constitution, with which application was made for incorporation in 1860. It is reprinted in the pamphlet of 1872. The Secretary's address is an appeal to the friends of the Home, based upon the growing needs of the institution, as it developed from the admission of the first orphan in 1858 to the erection of the central building, which was then nearing completion.

2

A pamphlet entitled "Constitution, Acts of Assembly and By-laws in relation to the Orphans' Home and Asylum for the Aged and Infirm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia." Printed by Hoffman and

Morwits, Nos. 612 and 614 Chestnut Street, 1872. It is followed by a translation in German.

There are six parts: (1) The list of nine trustees, with the names of the nine congregations from which the Lady Visitors came; (2) the original Constitution, or Charter of Incorporation, in eight articles; (3) Act of Assembly—the Amendment of the Charter of February 27, 1863, the so-called "First Amended Charter"; (4) An act to exempt the property from taxation, except the State tax, April 4, 1863; (5) Second Amended Charter, April 9, 1872, providing for the transfer of control to the Ministerium of Pennsylvania; (6) the By-laws, adopted July 5, 1872.

3

A pamphlet entitled, "History of the Orphans' Home and Asylum for the Aged and Infirm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, with the By-laws adopted July 5, 1872, for the Government of the Institution." Philadelphia. Lippe and Thomas, Printers, 720 Wood Street, 1877.

This pamphlet was issued September 1, 1877, by the Secretary, Mr. Lewis L. Houpt, as authorized by the Board of Trustees, March 23, 1877. There is only one illustration, on the back page of the cover—a cut of the main building of the Orphanage. Following a general sketch of the growth of the institution, the By-laws are printed, showing only a few slight changes from the By-laws adopted in 1872.

4

A brief historical sketch of 1890, printed in the Home's Annual Report of that year.

5

An excellent historical sketch by the Superintendent, Rev. George Ph. Mueller, printed in the Home's Annual Report of 1898.

6

A pamphlet, printed in both English and German, entitled, "History of the Orphans' Home and Asylum for the Aged and Infirm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6950 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia. (Price, 5 Cents.)" 1904. It contains eleven illustrations. The pamphlet is divided into two parts: the first contains "The History of the Orphans' Home from 1858 to 1890." (Through an error 1858 is given for 1859.) After a brief historical sketch of those years, there follows a list of the trustees of 1890, also the employees in the Home and in the Asylum. Then follows a special section on "The Asylum." The second part gives—"The History of the Later Period, from 1890 to 1904." Several sections are added: "Our Chapel" (with a description of its new furnishings); "Boys' Hall, Heating Plant and Laundry"; "Purchase of the Adjoining Lots"; "Memorial Tablet"; "Plan for the New Hall"; "Record of the Decease of Superintendent G. Ph. Mueller, of Superintendent G. C. Eisenhardt, and of President Henry Lehman." Then follow statistics with a list of the officers, and of the Directors or Trustees, from 1860 to 1904.

7

To the foregoing historical sources we must add the following: The Minutes kept by the Secretary of the Board; the Annual Report, as printed by the Board of Trustees; the Annual Report presented to the Ministerium of Pennsylvania; and "The Advocate."

CHARTER HISTORY

1

The petition for incorporation was presented May 1, 1860, nearly a year after the opening of the Home, and about a half year after the present permanent site had been secured. Incorporation was effected June 4, 1860.

The original constitution or charter of incorporation consisted of eight articles, defining the duties of the Board of Trustees in the legal management of the Home, then of the Board of Lady Managers in the internal management. The Board of Lady Managers was to consist of two ladies elected by and representing the Lutheran congregations in Philadelphia, co-operating in the support of the Home; the Board of Trustees, of nine members, elected by the Board of Lady Managers, to serve for a period of three years, arranged so that the terms of three of them would expire each year. Officers. Committees. Amendments. Under the corporate powers, the yearly income of real and personal estate was limited to $2000.

2

First amended Charter. By act of the Assembly the original Charter was amended February 27, 1863. This amendment provided that there was to be no interference from the Board of Trustees in the domestic economy and discipline of the institution, which was committed wholly to the Board of Lady Managers. The clear yearly income was not to exceed $10,000. There was no restriction of age in the reception of orphans; but when indentured to the Home at ten years of age or over, the child must assent thereto. The Home might then re-indenture the orphan to serve as an "apprentice

in any art, mystery (Fertigkeit), occupation or labor"; females, until eighteen years of age; males, to twenty-one years.

This amended charter was soon followed by an act to exempt the property from taxation, excepting the State tax, April 4, 1863.

In the pamphlet of 1865, we find the first copy of the By-laws of the institution, explaining the relation of the Trustees to the Lady Managers, the care and indenturing of the children, and the regulation of the household with the daily routine.

3

Second amended charter—April 9, 1872. An amendment was necessary to effect the transfer of the control of the institution to the Ministerium of Pennsylvania. It reads, "That the (German) Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania and adjacent states shall elect six of the Trustees, and the Board of Lady Visitors, three."

Under the new management new By-laws were adopted, July 5, 1872, in which the old By-laws were but slightly changed. The Board of Trustees was to supersede the Lady Managers in the entire management of the Home and in the appointment of all employees. There was also provision made for the memberships of the Home. A person became an ordinary member by the annual payment of $1.00 and upwards, and a life-member by a single payment of $100.

4

Third amended Charter, April 30, 1917. This amendment was effected in order to provide for increased representation on the Board of Trustees. The Board was

now to consist of twelve members, four ministers and eight laymen, the manner of whose election has already been explained in this history.

OFFICERS OF THE ORPHANS' HOME, 1860–1919

PRESIDENTS

	From		*To*	
Lewis Bremer*	June,	1860	March,	1866
Wm. L. Schaffer*	March,	1866	July,	1867
Fred. Staake*	July,	1867	Oct.,	1868
Paul P. Keller*	Oct.,	1868	July,	1872
Dan'l M. Fox*	July,	1872	July,	1879
Henry Lehman*	July,	1879	Feb.,	1904
Rev. J. E. Nidecker, D.D.	Feb.,	1904		

SECRETARIES

Lewis L. Houpt*	June,	1860	July,	1884
Rev. F. A. Kaehler	July,	1884	Oct.,	1884
Rev. Dr. Spaeth*	Oct.,	1884	July,	1885
Rev. J. P. Deck*	July,	1885	July,	1886
Paul P. Keller*	Jan.,	1886	July,	1887
R. B. Miller*	July,	1887	May,	1891
Rev. C. J. Hirzel*	June,	1890	Aug.,	1914
Rev. A. C. Schenck	Jan.,	1915		

GERMAN SECRETARIES

Rev. F. Wischan*	July,	1879	April,	1905
Rev. H. D. E. Siebott	Nov.,	1905		

TREASURERS

George Ashmead*	Jan.,	1864	July,	1872
John C. File*	July,	1872	May,	1890
H. Lehman*	May,	1890	April,	1892
J. A. Bremer*	April,	1892	July,	1896
Chr. L. Sautter*	July,	1896	Nov.,	1901
W. P. M. Braun	Nov.,	1901		

*Deceased.

HOUSE FATHERS

	From	To
Rev. J. Schladermundt*	Dec., 1860	March, 1863
Rev. C. Witmer*	March, 1863	March, 1864
Rev. C. Rondthaler*	May, 1864	June, 1864
Rev. H. Wendt*	Nov., 1864	July, 1867
Jno. K. Heyl*	Nov., 1867	Sept., 1868
Mrs. C. Goebel, Matron*	Sept., 1868	June, 1873
Rev. G. F. Gaertner*	Jan., 1873	July, 1877
Chas. F. Kuhnle*	July, 1877	Oct., 1891
Rev. G. Ph. Mueller*	Nov., 1891	June, 1900
Rev. G. C. Eisenhardt*	July, 1900	Nov., 1902
Mrs. Pauline Eisenhardt	Dec., 1902	June, 1920

LIST OF DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES, 1860–1919

	From	To
Lewis Bremer† *	June, 1860	March, 1866
Henry Goodman†	June, 1860	April, 1867
George Ashmead† *	June, 1860	July, 1872
Wm. L. Schaffer† *	June, 1860	July, 1867
Lewis L. Houpt† *	June, 1860	July, 1884
John L. Frederick† *	June, 1860	July, 1867
G. A. Reichert, Jr.†	June, 1860	March, 1863
John Rommel*	March, 1863	Jan., 1870
Frederick Staake† *	March, 1863	Oct., 1868
Wm. Schollenberger*	March, 1863	March, 1868
Joseph A. Bremer*	July, 1866	Jan., 1869
W. W. Kurtz*	April, 1867	Oct., 1867
Paul P. Keller*	March, 1868	July, 1889
John G. Schmidt*	March, 1868	Jan., 1871
Francis Funk*	Sept., 1867	March, 1868
Frederick Genth*	Jan., 1868	Oct., 1870
Jacob Zaun*	Jan., 1868	Nov., 1871
John Born*	Oct., 1868	July, 1872
W. J. Williams*	Jan., 1870	July, 1872
C. F. Norton*	Jan., 1870	Aug., 1870
John C. File*	Nov., 1871	May, 1890

* Deceased. † Original Corporators.

	From		To	
C. E. Blumner*	April,	1871	July,	1872
Jacob Rohlfing*	April,	1871	July,	1872
Daniel M. Fox*	July,	1872	July,	1879
George C. Boehm*	July,	1872	April,	1873
George M. Kinzler*	July,	1872	July,	1888
Rev. J. A. Kunkelman*	July,	1872	July,	1879
Rev. Dr. J. F. J. Schantz*	July,	1872	June,	1875
Rev. Dr. A. Spaeth*	July,	1872	July,	1890
Henry Lehman*	July,	1873	Feb.,	1904
Rev. A. T. Geissenhainer*	July,	1875	July,	1881
Rev. F. W. Wischan*	July,	1879	April,	1905
Wm. H. Staake	July,	1879	April,	1881
R. B. Miller*	April,	1881	May,	1891
Rev. F. A. Kaehler	April,	1881	Jan.,	1885
Rev. Dr. W. J. Mann*	Jan.,	1885	June,	1893
Rev. J. P. Deck*	April,	1885	April,	1890
Rev. F. P. Bender*	July,	1887	Jan.,	1896
H. S. Cassel*	July,	1888	Jan.,	1905
J. A. Bremer*	May,	1890	July,	1896
Rev. J. E. Nidecker, D.D.	July,	1890		
Rev. C. J. Hirzel*	June,	1890	Aug.,	1914
Kensil Wills*	May,	1891	July,	1895
Fried. Bauer*	May,	1891	July,	1896
Rev. J. F. C. Fluck	Feb.,	1896		
Leonhard Sefing*	June,	1895	Feb.,	1912
J. G. Finley	July,	1896		
Chr. L. Sautter*	July,	1896	July,	1901
W. P. M. Braun	Nov.,	1901		
W. Niemeyer*	March,	1905	June,	1918
H. G. Haring	March,	1905	June,	1918
Rev. H. D. E. Siebott	Nov.,	1905		
John Sefing	March,	1912	June,	1920
Rev. A. C. Schenck	Jan.,	1915		
Harvey R. Kiefaber	July,	1917		
Peter Woll, Jr.	June,	1917		
Oscar C. Schmidt	June,	1918		
John Burkhardt	June,	1918		
J. C. Steinbach	Feb.,	1918	May,	1921
E. K. Rhoads	June,	1921		
Rev. Warren Nickel	Dec.,	1921		

* Deceased.

Officers and Matrons

Mrs. E. ASHMEAD SCHAEFFER
Mrs. EMMA S. PLEIBEL
Rev. G.C. EISENHARDT
Mrs G.C. EISENHARDT
OTTILIE MAURER

of the Home

ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS

April 1, 1919

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Term Expired 1919

Rev. H. D. E. Siebott, German Secretary, Representative of Synod.
Rev. A. C. Schenck, English Secretary, Representative of Board of Lady Visitors.
Mr. John Sefing, Representative of Synod.
Mr. Harvey R. Kiefaber, Representative of Young People's Auxiliary.

Term Expired 1920

Mr. J. G. Finley, Representative of Synod.
Mr. Wm. P. M. Braun, Treasurer, Representative of Synod.
Rev. J. E. Nidecker, D.D., President, Representative of Board of Lady Visitors.
Mr. Peter Woll, Jr., Representative of Synod.

Term Expired 1921

Mr. Oscar C. Schmidt, Representative of Synod.
Mr. John Burkhardt, Representative of Synod.
Rev. J. F. C. Fluck, Representative of Board of Lady Visitors.
Mr. J. C. Steinbach, Representative of the Laymen's Co-operative Assoc.

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Rev. A. C. Schenck
Mr. Wm. P. M. Braun
Mr. James G. Finley
Rev. J. E. Nidecker, D.D.
Rev. H. D. E. Siebott
Mr. George A. Sook, Artist

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Rev. H. N. Fegeley, D.D., Mr. Aaron Gilbert — Representatives of Lancaster Conference.

Rev. E. Leisey, Charles P. Ulrich, Esq. — Representatives of Danville Conference.

Rev. J. D. C. Witke, Mr. W. H. Frey — Representatives of Wilkes-Barre Conference.

Rev. W. P. Reumann, Mr. D. W. Miller — Representatives of Pottsville Conference.

Rev. H. C. Kline, Mr. W. W. Speck — Representatives of Allentown Conference.

Rev. M. L. Zweizig, D.D., Mr. G. M. Huyett — Representatives of the Reading Conferenee.

SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. G. C. Eisenhardt

SOLICITOR

Paul Van Reed Miller, Esq.

PHYSICIANS

Visiting Physician to the Orphanage
Edward Ames Robinson, M.D.

Visiting Physician for the Aged and Infirm
G. Chapin Jenkins, M.D.

Visiting Physician to the Infant Home
Edward L. Bauer, M.D.

Visiting Physician to the Tryon Annex
William F. Kaercher, M.D.

Laryngologist, Otologist to the Orphanage, and Ophthalmologist, Laryngologist and Otologist to the Asylum
Gilbert J. Palen, M.D.
Joseph V. F. Clay, M.D., Assistant

Ophthalmologist to the Orphanage
Albert C. Sauter, M.D.

DENTISTS

James N. Perry, D.D.S.
John Burkhardt, Jr., Supervising, D.D.S.

BOARD OF LADY VISITORS

English Churches

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Mrs. Wm. H. Lewis

Epiphany, Manayunk
Mrs. F. G. H. Woerner
Mrs. O. C. Miller

Quakertown
Miss Sarah C. Clymer
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Mrs. Frank Weber
Mrs. Addison Cope

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Mrs. John R. Groff
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Mrs. Robert Le Fort
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Mrs. Frank W. Kline

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Mrs. G. Stephan
Mrs. Wm. Katz

St. Simeon's
Mrs. J. P. Shupe
Mrs. Hemmerle

Church of Good Shepherd
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Mrs. H. King

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Mrs. Decker
Mrs. W. Horn

Prince of Peace
Mrs. H. Powers

Augustus Church, Trappe
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Miss E. T. Miller

Italian Mission
Mrs. A. DeBenedetto

GERMAN CHURCHES

Zion
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Fraeulein Strickler

St. Paulus
Frau H. Laub
Frau L. VonBosse

St. Jacobus
Frau Adolf Hellwege
Frau Wm. Schuck

Emmanuel
Fraeulein P. Vogel
Frau C. Koch

St. Johannis
Fraeulein A. C. Hutzel
Fraeulein Pauline Hoerig

St. Marcus
Frau C. Bodie
Frau Wm. Biehl

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Frau Hulda Leuze
Frau L. Giess

St. Thomas
Frau H. C. Kuehn
Frau Aug. Bauer

Christus
Frau G. Koppenhoefer
Frau J. Braun

Tabor, Olney
Frau C. Bencker
Frau Wurzherer

Dreifaltigkeit, Camden
Frau Ruff
Fraeulein Anna Kadel

Bethanien
Frau H. Rittenhouse

Kreuz
Frau Marie Sonneborn
Frau J. H. Kauffeld

St. Petri, West Philadelphia
Frau G. Deindoerfer
Frau M. Stang

Christus, Camden
Frau J. G. Bingeman
Frau M. Sorg

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Frau Burgen
Frau Wick

St. Michael's
Frau M. Hirsch
Frau P. Schmidt

Cramer Hill
Frau M. Kaivansky
Frau W. Krast
Frau E. R. Reynolds

Zion, Wilmington
Frau Harry Neher
Frau Fred Hilbiber

Tacony
Frau R. Timte
Frau Susanna Henkel

St. Paul's Independent
Frau Molt
Fraeulein Thumm

CO-LABORERS IN THE HOME

In the Orphanage

Mrs. Emma Gummey, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Ethel C. Devlin, Superintendent's Secretary
Mrs. R. Henne, Matron
Prof. C. F. Haussman, Teacher of Music
Miss Ida Ribble, Nurse in Infant Home
Mrs. W. Campbell, Assistant
Miss Lucy Krech, Assistant
Mrs. A. Haupt, Assistant
Miss Mary Brown, Cook
Mr. A. L. Haas, Overseer
Mr. Henry Ring, Engineer
Mr. Fritz Bartel, Repairer
Mr. Gilbert Snow, Gardener
Mr. Harry V. Yeiser, General Helper

In the Asylum

Mrs. Catherine Graebing, Matron
Miss M. Graebing, Assistant
Mrs. Elmer, Cook
Mrs. K. Richard, Domestic
Mrs. Murray, Domestic
Mrs. Becker, Domestic
Mrs. Borradaile, Domestic
Mr. George Elmer, Orderly

In Tryon Annex

Mrs. C. Odenthal, Matron
Mrs. Stella Hevener, Domestic

POST-ANNIVERSARY DATA

(June, 1919, to Date of Issue)

HISTORICAL ADDENDA

Prepared by the English Secretary

The foregoing history was projected with the SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY as its culmination. For various and good reasons the history could not be undertaken before 1922. In order, therefore, to enable readers and patrons of the Home to learn the very latest happenings in connection with the Homes at Germantown, even up to the time of this history going to press, we attach the following addenda, in chronological order:

MAY 1, 1919.—The Junior House for boys opened May 1st with 22 inmates—eleven from the Infant Home and eleven from the Orphanage.

SEPTEMBER, 1919.—"Advocate" issued this month as second-class matter.

Making a Potato Cave for the storing of the large quantities of potatoes and vegetables coming annually from rural congregations. Capacity, 1000 bushels.

The wiring of buildings using gas heretofore, and electric lighting throughout the institution.

A Dental Infirmary.

Children up to the second grade also sent to the public schools.

DECEMBER, 1919.—Mrs. Eisenhardt's resignation. In effect, June 1, 1920.

Gymnasium in the old stable completed.

The securing of a deaconess from the Mary J. Drexel Mother House for Deaconesses—Sister Anna. Later on compelled to leave on account

of ill health. Another has not been sent since (1921).

Mr. J. C. Steinbach acting Superintendent until June 1, 1920.

SPRING, 1920.—Overtures of the Lutheran Women's League of Philadelphia for the use of the Tryon Annex as a Christian Home for girls; taking charge of the same through rental of the property August 1, 1920.

Increasing the entrance fee of the Old People's Home to $500.

MARCH, 1920.—Rev. J. E. Nidecker, D.D., resigns as President of the Board of Trustees, after serving as such for over fifteen years.

MARCH 31, 1920.—Rev. J. W. Hauser, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Chester, called to the superintendency. Accepts April 8, 1920. Takes charge June 1, 1920.

APRIL, 1920.—Mr. Peter Woll, Jr., elected President.

APRIL, 1920.—Mr. John S. Sefing, of Allentown, Pa., resigns from the Board.

Howard Weiss, one of our boys, becomes student at Muhlenberg College with a view to the ministry.

MAY 14, 1920.—Reception to Superintendent, Rev. J. W. Hauser, and wife, in the New Century Drawing Rooms, under the auspices of the Laymen's Co-operative Association, Mr. Oscar Schmidt, President.

JUNE, 1920.—The Finance Committee authorized to act as an Executive Committee.

JUNE, 1920.—Mr. W. W. Speck elected by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania as Mr. Sefing's successor.

DECEMBER 19, 1920.—The complete gutting of the Kuhlemeier Annex and Auditorium by fire of unknown origin. The rescuing of 60 children, imperiled by fire and smoke, by firemen and the matrons in charge. An astounding demonstration of Christian sympathy from all sides, the contribution of relief funds by congregations throughout the Ministerium amounting to $43,780.79.

A new surgical infirmary and dispensary.

SPRING, 1921.—Restoration of destroyed wing with improvements, such as new dining hall on the first floor, instead of in the basement; new kitchen, new recreation rooms for girls, new dormitory facilities, and fire alarm equipment for the grounds.

Fire adjustments by the insurance companies fixed our fire losses at $44,422.46.

New Bronze Tablet for the main hall.

MARCH, 1921.—Mrs. Katherine Graebing resigns as Matron of the Old People's Home after twenty-five years of service.

MAY, 1921.—Mr. J. C. Steinbach withdraws from the Board as the representative of the Laymen's Co-operative Association.

MAY 21, 1921.—Rededication of restored Girls' Wing of Main Building.

Mr. E. K. Rhoads becomes Mr. Steinbach's successor.

SUMMER, 1921.—Vacation Bible School conducted by the Superintendent for first time.

JUNE, 1921.—Rev. J. F. C. Fluck, for many years a Trustee, resigns because of continued ill health.

FALL, 1921.—Comprehensive plans for buildings and grounds being planned.

DECEMBER, 1921.—Rev. Warren Nickel, of Souderton, Pa., becomes successor to Rev. Fluck as one of the Lady Visitors' representatives.

Isolation Building for contagious and infectious diseases begun in spring of 1922. Corner-stone laid June 8, 1922. Dedicated December 26, 1922.

The superintendent given every opportunity to observe and study Inner Mission activities and administration elsewhere, visiting other institutions, and conferring with other orphanage heads. Conference at Chicago in June, and another at Topton in July.